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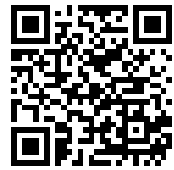

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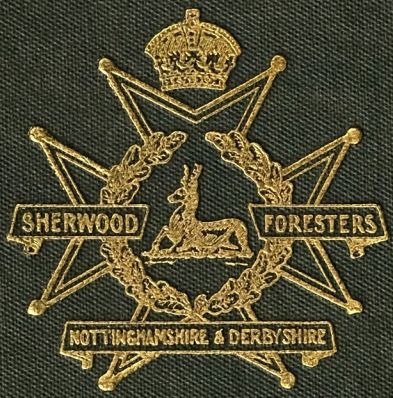

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1922

Regimental Annual

THE SHERWOOD FORESTERS

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REGIMENT

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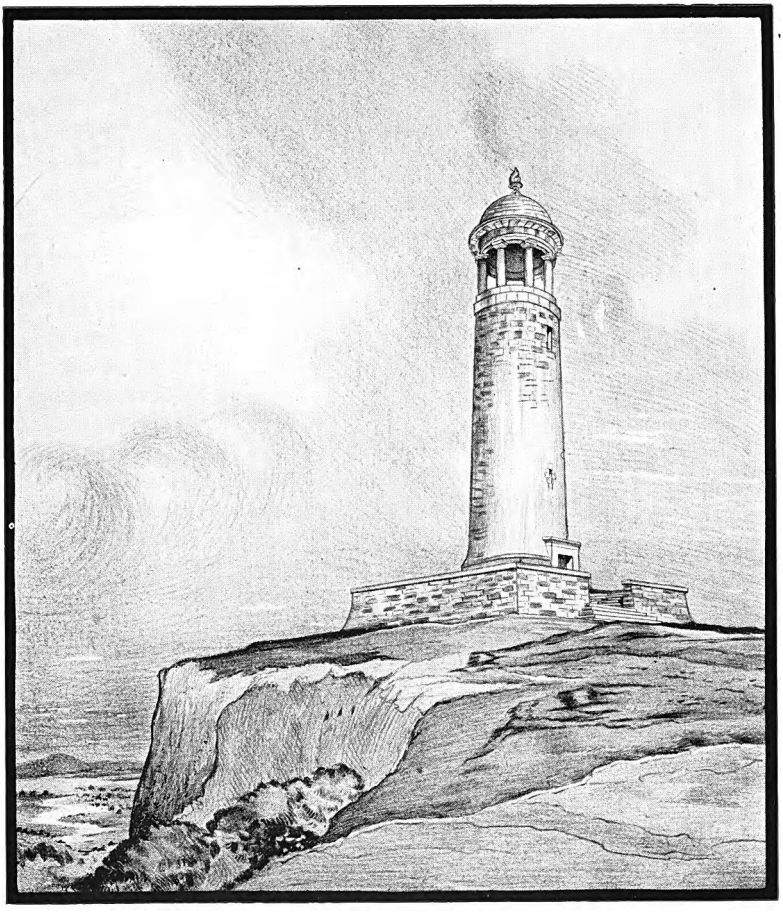

SHERWOOD FORESTERS' WAR MEMORIAL, CRICH, DERBYSHIRE

Frontispiece

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1922

Regimental Annual

THE SHERWOOD FORESTERS

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AND DERBYSHIRE REGIMENT

EDITED BY

COLONEL H. C. WYLLY, C.B.

"To set the Cause above Renown,
To love the Game beyond the Prize."

HENRY NEWBOLT.

LONDON: GEORGE ALLEN & UNWIN LTD.
RUSKIN HOUSE, 40 MUSEUM STREET, W.C. 1
1922

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REGIMENTAL ANNUAL

I

THE SHERWOOD FORESTERS' (NOTTINGINGHAM-SHIRE AND DERBYSHIRE REGIMENT) WAR MEMORIAL

AT a General Meeting of the Old Comrades' Association held on the 8th October, 1921, at Chesterfield, an Executive Committee was appointed to consider the question of erecting a war memorial to the memory of the Sherwood Foresters, with Col.-Commandant G. D. Goodman, C.M.G., D.S.O. (T.A.), as chairman. At a meeting of this committee on the 12th December, 1921, it was suggested that the memorial should take the form of a bronze statue of a private soldier in fighting order, mounted on a stone pedestal, and erected inside the entrance gates of Normanton Barracks, Derby. Lt.-Col. A. W. Brewill, D.S.O. (T.A.), architect, together with Mr. Henry Poole, A.R.A., sculptor, of Chelsea, London, were instructed to design the memorial, and to submit a model for approval. It was also considered desirable that the feeling in Nottinghamshire should be ascertained as to what support would be given to the erection of the memorial in Normanton Barracks, Derby, and on enquiries being made it was found that there was a very general feeling that a Sherwood Foresters' War Memorial erected in a suburb of Derby would not be very cordially supported in Nottinghamshire, especially having regard to the great number of Nottinghamshire men who served in the regiment, and a suggestion was made that two war memorials should be erected—one in each county. The ascertained views with regard to the memorial were forwarded to General Sir H. L. Smith-

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Dorrien, G.C.B., the colonel of the regiment, and in his letter of the 16th February, 1922, which he wrote to Major Harvey, D.S.O., the hon. secretary to the Committee, he stated that he agreed with the views taken in Nottingham, as he felt there would naturally be some objection by Nottinghamshire people to subscribe large sums for a memorial to the Sherwood Foresters to be erected in Derby. The regiment belonging to the two counties, naturally each would like to have a memorial in its own county. He recommended one larger memorial in a permanent position between the two counties, and that smaller memorials referring to it should be erected in Nottingham and Derby.

At a General Meeting held at The Exchange, Nottingham, on February 22nd, 1922, the whole question of the memorial, and the site or sites, were reconsidered. The model for the suggested memorial at Normanton Barracks was submitted by the architect, and after a lengthy discussion the conclusion arrived at was that Normanton Barracks would not be a suitable place for the erection of a Sherwood Foresters' memorial, as this would not be acceptable to Nottinghamshire. It was then suggested, and unanimously approved, that if a suitable site could be found on high ground near the boundaries of the two counties that the memorial should be there erected, and the Executive Committee were asked to see if such a site were available, and to report to a future General Meeting. The Committee visited Crich Hill, Derbyshire, where formerly stood the old Crich Tower, which had recently been pulled down, and they unanimously agreed that this was an exceedingly fine site for the memorial, so the architect was instructed to prepare a design for a tower on this site to submit to a General Meeting. Brig.-Gen. G. M. Jackson, who was present at the visit of the Committee to the site, said that if this site were selected the Clay Cross Company, Ltd. (of which he is the chairman), would give them the whole of the stonework of the old tower which had been taken down, also a subscription, and in addition would undertake to cart to the site the materials required by the builder for the erection of the memorial. If the stones from the old tower were to be of any great value in the memorial the new design would have to be based very largely on that of the old tower,

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and the architect, also bearing in mind the amount of money the Committee thought should be expended on the memorial, decided to design a tower which would use the whole of the old stonework available, and surmount the same by a dome carried on eight Greek Doric columns with entablature; also building a new base to the level of the plinth, and a new doorway. The perspective sketch of this design is shown in the illustration.

A further General Meeting was held by permission of the Mayor of Nottingham in the Mayor's Parlour, Nottingham, on the 11th May, 1922, His Grace the Duke of Devonshire taking the chair. Col. G. D. Goodman reported that, in pursuance of the resolution passed by the meeting on the 22nd February last, the Executive Committee had endeavoured to find a suitable site for the erection of the memorial, which would be visible from both counties, and that they were of opinion that the most suitable site would be on Crich Hill, near the site of the old Crich Stand, which had been recently taken down. A memorial tower erected on this site would be visible from Nottingham and a large part of Nottinghamshire, and also from a considerable part of Derbyshire. He further reported that he had been in communication with Brig.-Gen. G. M. Jackson and Major Hurt, the owner of the land, and he understood that every facility would be given for the acquisition of the site and the erection of the memorial if the site which the Committee recommended were approved, and he submitted the design for the memorial tower which the architect had prepared. Major Hurt, who was present at the meeting, said that he would be pleased to facilitate the acquisition of the site.

Gen. G. M. Jackson confirmed the report of Col. G. D. Goodman's committee as to the suitability of Crich Hill for the suggested memorial and its visibility from a large portion of both counties. He stated that the old Crich Stand, which had originally been erected by an ancestor of Major Hurt, had been removed owing to its proximity to the quarry workings belonging to his firm, and that they had contemplated re-erecting it upon the site now selected and recommended by Col. Goodman's committee for the Sherwood Foresters' War Memorial. He further stated that as the

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erection of the memorial upon this site would relieve his firm from the obligation to erect the old Stand, they would subscribe the sum of £200, and as previously stated would also cart all materials required for the erection of the memorial.

The meeting unanimously decided to accept the recommendations of Col. Goodman's committee, and also suggested that a record of the names of those who fell in the Great War should be prepared in duplicate, one to be preserved in each county. The Committee made arrangements to hold a Flag Day (in order to raise the necessary funds) on Saturday, August 5th, 1922, and this, together with private subscriptions, has resulted in a sum of £3,408 15s. 8d. being received up to the 21st October, 1922.

A meeting of the Executive Committee held on the 21st October, 1922, accepted Mr. Payne's (builder, of Crich) estimate of £1,815 11s. 6d. for the erection of the memorial tower, and the architect was instructed to place the work in hand.

The inscription suggested to be placed on the memorial is as follows :—

> To commemorate the services of 150,000 of thirty-two battalions of the Sherwood Foresters (Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Regiment) who served in the Great War 1914–1919; and in memory of the 11,296 of those who gave their lives. To remind us of their sacrifice and our duty.

It is also under contemplation to fix a bronze tablet in a central position in the towns of Nottingham and Derby, stating that the memorial to the Sherwood Foresters has been erected on Crich Hill.

	£	s.	d.
Nottinghamshire Flag Days and Subscriptions	995	0	10
Derbyshire Flag Days and Subscriptions .	2185	19	1
Subscriptions from outside sources . .	227	15	9
Actual amount received to date . . .	3408	15	8

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II

A LETTER TO OUR COLONEL

THE following is an extract from a personal letter dated 18th October, 1922, from Lt.-Gen. Sir Charles Harington, K.C.B., D.S.O., Commander-in-Chief British Forces at Constantinople, to the Colonel of the Regiment, Gen. Sir Horace Smith-Dorrien :—

" I have been trying for some time to get an opportunity to send you a line to tell you what a splendid battalion the Foresters with me is. It is far and away the best battalion I have seen since the war. It came to me with a great reputation from Congreve as his best battalion, and it is certainly mine. The battalion is very well commanded by Popham, and has a thoroughly good tone and system from top to bottom. It is now at Chanak, and is one of the battalions which deserve great credit for their patience and restraint during a very trying time. It speaks volumes for their discipline, and it is entirely owing to them that we were able to attain some measure of success at Mudania. I am sorry to say the Foresters are leaving almost at once, as the War Office has wired out to say that they are wanted urgently for reliefs."

In circulating the above, the Colonel of the Regiment is sure that such high praise of the 2nd Battalion Sherwood Foresters (the old 95th Derbyshire Regiment) will be most gratifying, not only to all Sherwood Foresters, past and present, but to the counties of Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire, and further that all will agree that great credit is due to all ranks of that battalion, and especially to Lt.-Col. R. S. Popham, C.M.G., D.S.O., and his predecessor, Lt-Col. R. J. F. Taylor, C.B.E., who commanded them in Egypt when they were under Lt.-Gen. Sir W. Congreve, V.C., K.C.B., M.V.O.

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III

THE RAISING AND EARLY LIFE OF THE 95TH REGIMENT

DURING the latter part of the Peninsular War the Spanish colonies in America had rebelled against their home government and it had been necessary to send troops from Spain to restore order. Little progress, however, was made. The service was very costly in life and treasure, and was, moreover, exceedingly unpopular among the soldiers. The discontent in the army was worked upon by revolutionaries, and in January, 1820, there was a meeting among the military in Cadiz which speedily led to a revolution against King Ferdinand, who had ascended—or more correctly reascended—the throne in 1814. From 1820 to 1823 there was a mere anarchy in Spain, during which time the King was virtually a prisoner in the hands of his subjects, and the general state of affairs at last became intolerable to the government of King Louis XVIII of France. When the trouble in Spain first began the Emperor of Russia had proposed a joint intervention by the leading Powers for the restoration of order in the Peninsula, but the project came to nothing owing to the opposition of the Cabinets of London and Vienna.

In 1822 the matter was raised at the Congress of Verona, then in session, and in spite of the vigorous protests of Great Britain, what we should now probably call a mandate was granted by a majority of the Powers to France to send troops into Spain in order to put an end to a state of affairs deemed perilous to France and to Europe generally. Accordingly in April, 1823, a powerful French army under the Duke of Angoulême crossed the Bidassoa into Spain.

In consequence no doubt of these warlike measures by the French Government, certain proposals were made for increasing the number of regiments at that time composing the

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British Army. Only a few years prior to these events seven infantry regiments, numbered from 94 to 100 inclusive, had been disbanded, and in the year 1821 the army was just under 100,000 strong, with 20,000 men only in India; but on the 24th November, 1823, a proposal was submitted to and approved by the King that two regiments of infantry should be raised for general service, to be numbered 94 and 95, each of eight companies and of an establishment of 576 rank and file. This was followed some three weeks later by the dispatch of the following letter to Major-Gen. Colin Halkett, K.C.B., G.C.H.*:—

"*War Office, 16th December*, 1823.

"*Sir,*

"*The King having been pleased to order a Regiment of Infantry to be forthwith raised for general service under your command and to consist of the numbers mentioned in the margin hereof, I have the honour to acquaint you that the same is to be numbered the 95th, and will be placed upon the establishment of the Army from the 25th instant inclusive.*

"*I have, etc.,*

(Signed) "*Palmerston.*"

The Establishment herein mentioned was as follows: 1 Colonel, 1 Lieutenant-Colonel, 2 Majors, 8 Captains, 10 Lieutenants, 6 Ensigns, 1 Paymaster, 1 Adjutant, 1 Quartermaster, 1 Surgeon, 1 Assistant Surgeon, 1 Sergeant-Major, 1 Quartermaster-Sergeant, 1 Paymaster-Sergeant, 1 Armourer-Sergeant, 1 Schoolmaster-Sergeant, 8 Colour-Sergeants, 16 Sergeants, 24 Corporals, 1 Drum-Major, 11 Drummers and 552 Privates.

The dates given in Lord Palmerston's letter seem rather confusing, for it is dated the *16th* December, and states that the new Regiment will be placed on the Establishment of the army from the *25th* of the same month; but we find that the officers were all posted under date of the *12th* December in the *London Gazette* of the *13th*, while the dates of the Officers' commissions are all the *1st* December.

* For a brief record of this officer's services see Regimental Annual for 1914.

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The following are the names of the Officers gazetted to the 95th on its formation, with the regiments to which they had formerly belonged :—

Lt.-Col. Gustavus Brown, C.B., from ½-pay of the Portuguese Legion.
Major and Bt.-Lt.-Col. Dudley St. Leger Hill, C.B., from ½-pay of the Portuguese Legion.
Major Edward Fitzgerald, from ½-pay of the 60th Foot.
Capt. and Bt.-Major John Mitchell, from the 1st Foot.
Capt. Arthur Gore, from ½-pay of the 30th Foot.
,, Frederick Gibbons, from the 91st Foot.
,, William Brownson, from ½-pay 5th Garrison Btn.
,, Dansie Carter, from ½-pay of the 58th Foot.
,, Pierre Toussaint de Barrallier, from the 1st Royal Veteran Btn.
,, Robert Robison, from the 1st West India Regt.
,, William Martin Yorke, from ½-pay of the 17th Foot.
Lieut. Hector Straith, from Lieut. and Adjt. 34th Foot.
,, George Mordaunt Dickens, from 2nd Royal Veteran Btn.
,, John Cusine, from ½-pay 95th Foot.
,, William Mayes, from 1st Royal Veteran Btn.
,, William Saunders, from 3rd Royal Veteran Btn.
,, Robert Cumming Hamilton Gordon, from ½-pay of the 48th Foot.
,, William Newhouse, from ½-pay of the 65th Foot.
,, Henry John Sperling, from ½-pay of the 9th Foot.
,, Joseph Carruthers, from ½-pay of the 17th Foot.
,, David Dickson, from 2nd Royal Veteran Btn.
,, Thomas Abercromby Trant, from the 38th Foot.
Ensign Edward Mayne, from 2nd Royal Veteran Btn.
,, Robert Henry Bunbury, from 2nd Royal Veteran Btn.
,, Edward Harrison, from 3rd Royal Veteran Btn.
,, James Young, from ½-pay of the 52nd Foot.
,, John Parker, from ½-pay of the Rifle Brigade.
,, Thomas Alcock, from ½-pay of the 36th Foot.
Adjt. Lieut. Straith.
Quartermaster Francis Feneran.
Surgeon John Hodson, M.D., from ½-pay of the Bourbon Regt.
Asst. Surgeon Daniel Leonard, from the Royal Waggon Train.

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Two of these officers at least had seen much service. Col. Brown appears to have been a German, his name having originally been Braun or " de Braun," as given in the *Military Calendar*. He entered the British service in 1794 as a second-lieutenant in Löwenstein's Rifle Regiment, was taken prisoner in the surrender of the fortress of Grave in Holland, ransomed himself, rejoined, and came to England in 1795, and then went to the West Indies, where he served for thirteen years and shared in the capture of several of the islands. Returning to England in 1809, he joined the army in Portugal and served to the end of the Peninsular War, being present in some sixteen battles and actions, chiefly in command of the 9th Cacadores. He received the C.B. and the Cross for Salamanca, Pyrenees, Nivelle and Nive, being " mentioned " in Wellington's despatch on this last battle. He was several times wounded, and once when voyaging to the West Indies in the *Belisarius* she was run down by the *Royal Sovereign* and Col. Brown was picked up after having been some considerable time in the water. According to the *Military Calendar* " he lost the use of some of his limbs," and seems to have been embittered by the loss of a good deal of money through the failure of the paymasters of two corps in which he had served.

Lt.-Col. Hill was originally in the 82nd Foot, served in Ireland and then at Monte Video under Sir Samuel Auchmuty, was present at and wounded and taken prisoner at the attack on Buenos Ayres. Was wounded again at Roleia and served in the Corunna campaign, and then returning to Portugal in 1809 was present at Talavera. He was attached to the 95th Rifles at the Coa, was with the Lusitanian Legion at Busaco and Fuentes d'Onor, commanded the 8th Cacadores at siege and storm of Burgos, was severely wounded at Salamanca, and was again wounded and captured at the Carrion River. He was at Vittoria, St. Sebastian (wounded) and Bayonne in command of the 8th Cacadores. He received the Cross for Fuentes d'Onor, Badajos, Salamanca, Vittoria and St. Sebastian ; the C.B., the Order of the Tower and Sword, and four medals from the Portuguese Government.

Capt. Gore, afterwards Gen. Sir Arthur Gore, was present at Waterloo with the 30th Foot and was wounded ; while

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Quartermaster Feneran served as a N.C.O. in the 1st Btn. 95th Rifles in Belgium and was also at Waterloo.

The new Regiment was formed at Winchester and was raised very speedily, recruiting being opened throughout England, and that for all other corps being suspended until the 94th and 95th were completed. The men for the 95th were drawn from the following towns, etc.: from London 82, from Jersey 4, from Coventry 50, from Bristol—presumably landed there from Ireland, then a most fruitful recruiting ground—556, from the Isle of Wight 5, from Liverpool 37, from Leeds 23 and from Brighton 8. No wonder then with recruits coming in so freely that the corps was completed by the 10th February, 1824, and that it was able to give 208 volunteers to the 96th Regiment by then also in course of being raised.

Some of the non-commissioned, and what we should now call warrant, officers came from other corps—one or two in the rank of corporal and even private, being promoted after joining. The following are the names of those who appear in the Regimental Pay List for the first three months after the raising of the 95th with, where this has been ascertainable, the regiments from which each was transferred :—

Sergeant-Major Benjamin Stride, Quartermaster-Sergeant John Fergusson (72nd), Schoolmaster-Sergeant James Allen, Armourer-Sergeant Joseph Baily, Drum-Major Samuel Lyne ; Colour-Sergeants George Broyd (2nd), John Hawkins (3rd Veteran Btn.), George Laidler (2nd), George (or John) Mills (2nd) ; Sergeants Thomas Austin, Michael Carroll, William Benson Erlam, Edward Early (3rd Veteran Btn.), James Gainor, John Corcoran (72nd), Andrew Holland, John Harding (3rd Guards), Robert Hodge (72nd), John John (2nd), Anthony Miller (3rd Veteran Btn.), Patrick McFall, William Olvison, William Porter (3rd Guards), W. Atlee Robertson, Patrick Tighe, Richard Taylor (85th) and James Thorn (72nd).

Some of these appointments and promotions, as we shall see later, did not very long endure.

The dress of the new Regiment was as follows :—

Officers : Coatee scarlet, lapels, cuffs and collar yellow Prussian collar full 3 inches deep with a loop and small button at each end, straight lapels buttoning back to the large

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regimental buttons with loops, occupying two-thirds of the space from outward edge to front seam of arm-hole, tapering to 2½ inches at bottom, closing in front with hooks and eyes. In undress the lapels were worn buttoned down. Cuffs 3½ inches deep with four loops and large buttons on each, four short loops on the back, coatee skirts with cross flaps, four loops and buttons on each.

White kerseymere turn backs, lace silver, buttons silver—"95" inside a crowned garter inscribed with motto, "Honi soit qui mal y pense." Cap, black beaver, bell shaped, silver cut star in front with the number of the Regiment.

In full dress white kerseymere breeches were worn with white silk stockings: in undress, blue-grey trousers and ankle boots.

Other ranks: The men's lace was white, with three stripes, one black, one yellow and one red, the last two conjoining; the loops were square-headed.

The skirt ornament for the Officers' coatee was the number 95, with a crowned garter, the garter blue and the centre red.

Early in March, 1824, the 95th Regiment received orders to prepare for embarkation for Malta, and appears to have at once left Winchester for Portsmouth, for there is a long letter dated the 10th March from Major-Gen. Sir James Lyon, commanding at the last-named station, and in this letter he says that he has made a minute inspection of the Regiment and "have every satisfaction in being enabled to report that its actual state and condition is as good as, considering its very recent formation, it can possibly be expected to be in." He then went on to say that the men "are of rather low stature, but quite young, healthy and cleanly, remarkably well set up and very steady. . . . Their conduct has been exemplary." Then he remarks that the men were without arms, clothing, accoutrements or knapsacks, but that every effort was being made to accelerate the supply of these articles—which indeed seem almost indispensable for a regiment proceeding on foreign service! Major-Gen. Lyon concluded by saying: "From all I have seen of the 95th I have every confidence they will in course of a little time, and with the advantages they possess of being ably commanded, soon

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rival older corps in appearance, movement and every branch of discipline."

(May we not express a hope that Sir James Lyon's confidence has been more than justified ?)

The General, however, suggested that the 95th should return to Winchester from Fort Cumberland, where it was provisionally stationed, until it should be completely armed, clothed and equipped. Sir James was told to use his own discretion in the matter, and the Regiment appears to have remained at Portsmouth, finally receiving embarkation orders on the 28th March.

Two companies remained in England to form a depot, and the 2nd in command does not seem to have proceeded abroad with the 95th; the remaining six companies embarked at Gosport as follows: the first division in the transport *Loyal Briton* under Capt. Cockburn* on the 31st March, the second in the *Joseph Green* under Major Fitzgerald on the 2nd April, and the Headquarter division in the *Surrey* on the 29th, but this last did not actually sail until the 7th May.

The 1st and 2nd Divisions reached Malta on the 27th April, the Headquarters not until the 7th June, and the whole Regiment was quartered at Floriana. At this time the Marquis of Hastings was the Governor of Malta, while Major-Gen. Sir Manley Power was in command of the troops.

The half-yearly inspection of the 95th took place on the 19th July on the Floriana parade ground, and the General wrote a long report on all he had noticed; he gave his opinion that Lt.-Col. Brown was "a very excellent officer and discharges his important duties with zeal and ability, and he uses every exertion to establish a well-regulated discipline in the corps. . . . The non-commissioned officers," he said, "are generally very young and inexperienced. Some of the sergeants, who have been transferred from other regiments, are no great acquisition to the Corps. . . . Privates—very young body of men, many weakly in appearance, but the Regiment generally composed of young men of a description likely to improve. They have a general appearance of health, and are getting into habits of cleanliness."

* Exchanged in February from ½-pay 17th Light Dragoons with Robison.

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The Report tells us that there had been a good deal of sickness since arrival and that five men had died—among these was an officer, Capt. Yorke, who is buried in No. 2 Quarantine Cemetery.

The Regiment apparently brought its Colours with it from home, for the Report contains a note stating that these were "in strict conformity to H.M.'s regulations, but they have not yet been presented, nor will be until the Battalion is able to perform the Field Exercise and Movements."

Sir Manley Power gave his opinion that "there has been more Corporal Punishment than I can conceive necessary in so young a Corps." The punishments generally inflicted at this time were what we should now regard as savage in the extreme, and in the Malta General Orders of that period we constantly read of private soldiers, and even of reduced sergeants, being awarded two hundred or three hundred lashes for offences of a not especially serious character.

At this time the regimental school had just been established under Schoolmaster-Sergeant James Allen.

Malta was by no means a health resort in the early part of the last century; there was much fever, and something like an epidemic of ophthalmia, a number of men of the 95th being sent for change of air to Fort Ricasoli. The Assistant Surgeon of the Regiment, Leonard, went to England in charge of a large party of invalids, and some officers of the 95th went home on sick leave or medical certificate, among these, in July, went Lieutenant and Adjutant Straith, who was promoted Captain while in England *vice* Yorke deceased, when he was succeeded as adjutant by Lieut. Dickens. Up to August of this year there had been no paymaster, but Lieut. Michael Rafter, from half-pay 84th Foot, was now appointed.

The general officer commanding reported again on the Regiment on the 14th January, 1825, and wrote, in sorrow rather than in anger, about Lt.-Col. Brown, who, he remarked, "certainly possesses zeal but has taken most unjustifiable measures to support his authority as commanding officer, in which he has been extremely intemperate and in consequence of which the discipline of the Corps is not under proper regulation." The more Sir Manley wrote about Col. Brown the more did he seem to warm to his work, and he winds up

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by giving in detail certain of the "measures" of which he makes not unnatural complaint :—

1. Marching men with labels upon their backs for every description of crime.
2. Non-commissioned officers being sent to heavy pack drill or to the Black Hole.
3. A practice of putting soldiers in a place of confinement called the *Dry Room*.
4. Non-commissioned officers being suspended from pay by order of the Commanding Officer.

These remarks were no doubt communicated to Lt.-Col. Brown,* who seems to have regarded them as being of the nature of a hint, for he at once applied for and obtained twelve months' leave of absence, went home in February and never came back, Lt.-Col. Sir Dudley Hill assuming temporary command in his place.

During this year the Regiment furnished a detachment at Gozo, and about the same time a draft arrived from home.

The Malta General Orders of the 11th April, 1825, contains the following :—

"The 95th Regiment will parade on Wednesday next, the 13th inst., at 3 o'clock p.m. in front of the Palace for the purpose of receiving their Colours. Lt.-Col. the Hon. W. H. Gardner, Commanding Royal Artillery, will be prepared to fire a Royal Salute from the Parade of Floriana on the signal being given from the Palace. Major-Gen. Sir Manley Power will be pleased to give the necessary instructions for arranging the ceremonial to be observed on the occasion."

Those who have had any experience of the Inspection Returns of the close of the eighteenth and beginning of the nineteenth century cannot fail to have noticed that in the majority of these the Colours of infantry regiments are very frequently mentioned in a deprecatory tone as being in bad condition. The reason no doubt was that at this period the different emblems, etc., were usually painted on the silk and not as now embroidered. The first set of Colours carried by the 95th Regiment was of the painted variety, and already

* Colonel Brown is shown among the Lieut.-Colonels in the Army List up to 1855 and died on 28th May, 1861, at Dresden, aged 83.

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in the Inspection Report of 1828 we find it noted, " Although only three years in use are much injured from the circumstance of the arms and ornaments being painted."

The Colours were consecrated by the Rev. J. Le Mesurier, chaplain, and were presented to the 95th Regiment by the Marchioness of Hastings, the wife of the Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Malta,* but for the reasons above mentioned were in a comparatively short space of time replaced by a second set of more durable character.

The next two or three half-yearly inspection reports vary very greatly in tone; in that for May, 1825, Gen. Power spoke very well of the Regiment and of the methods of command of Lt.-Col. Sir Dudley Hill. In November, however, he was not so complimentary, said that the 95th had suffered much from the frequent change of commanding officers, and the want of any permanent adjutant. Col. Brown had been gazetted out in July, and Lt.-Col. A. C. Wylly, C.B., from the 7th Fusiliers, had been appointed in his place. This last-named officer had, however, not yet arrived, and the Regiment had been commanded in turn by Hill, Fitzgerald, Gore and a Major Peddie, who seems to have joined during the summer. Then two adjutants had been promoted after holding office for very short periods, and had been succeeded by an acting adjutant only, while the General reported that some of the officers were " wanting in zeal " and that the non-commissioned officers in general were " very indifferent." All the same Sir Manley Power said that the Regiment " is now going on uncommonly well, in a high state of improvement, and if it is well commanded will become in another year a very respectable and efficient regiment."

On the 14th August, 1825, a letter was issued from the War Office ordering the augmentation of the establishment of the 95th which was now to be composed of 10 companies, 6 service and 4 depot, with a strength as under :—

Service Companies: 1 Colonel, 1 Lieutenant-Colonel, 1 Major, 6 Captains, 8 Lieutenants, 4 Ensigns, 1 Paymaster,

* Of this first set of Colours no trace has ever been found. It should perhaps be stated that the Report for November of this year says, "Colours not yet presented or brought into use," but in view of the foregoing this would seem to be an error.

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1 Adjutant, 1 Quartermaster, 1 Surgeon, 1 Assistant Surgeon, 1 Sergeant-Major, 1 Quartermaster-Sergeant, 1 Paymaster-Sergeant, 1 Armourer-Sergeant, 1 Schoolmaster-Sergeant, 1 Hospital-Sergeant, 6 Colour-Sergeants, 18 Sergeants, 1 Drum-Major, 9 Drummers and Fifers, 24 Corporals and 492 Privates.

Depot Companies: 1 Major, 4 Captains, 4 Lieutenants, 4 Ensigns, 1 Assistant Surgeon, 4 Colour-Sergeants, 8 Sergeants, 12 Corporals, 4 Drummers and Fifers and 221 Privates, or 836 of all ranks.

There seems nothing to show how the 95th came by its title of "the Derbyshire Regiment." Enquiries have been made of the office of the Lord Lieutenant of the County, and search has been instituted in the back files of the Derbyshire newspapers of the day, but there does not appear to be any trace of anything of the nature of a local application having been put forward for the county of Derby to be territorially connected with one of the regiments lately raised. The following is the authority for the title:—

"Most humbly submitted to His Majesty.

"That the 95th Regiment be permitted to be styled the 95th or Derbyshire Regiment of Foot.

"Approved
"G.R.

"*8th November*, 1825."

Communicated on the 26th November to Major-Gen. Sir Colin Halkett, Colonel of the 95th Regiment,

Officer Commanding do.,
War Office.

But not only was there, so far as can be discovered, no agitation for this connection with the Regiment by the people of the county, but the announcement does not appear to have attracted any notice, and the following extract from the *London Gazette* of the 3rd December, 1825, is reproduced in the *Derby Mercury* of the 7th *idem.*, p. 3, col. 3, without remark or comment of any kind: "His Majesty has been pleased to approve of the 95th Regiment being styled the 95th or 'Derbyshire' Regiment of Foot."

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It is said that " Some people are born great, others achieve greatness," but the people of Derbyshire appear to have had " greatness thrust upon them ! "

Some time during the winter of 1825–26 General Power was succeeded in command of the troops at Malta by Major-Gen. Sir Alexander Woodford, who, on the 25th February, 1826, made a long report on the 95th Regiment from which extracts will now be given, as they explain many happenings of importance in the early history of the Corps.

" I have the honour to report Lt.-Col. Wylly's arrival a few days ago, and he has taken command of the 95th Regiment. . . . When I assumed the command in Malta I found Major Peddie in charge of the 95th, and it is but justice to that officer to report that he has paid very great attention to his duties and shown every anxiety to bring the Regiment into a proper state. The newly appointed adjutant, Ensign Main* (formerly sergeant-major in the Grenadier Guards) was taken ill on his arrival with symptoms of liver complaint and spasmodic affection of the chest upon any exertion. He has repeatedly expressed himself incapable of carrying out the duties of the adjutancy, and thus, at the very moment when a proper system ought to have been fixed, the insufficiency of the adjutant has increased the difficulties and left Major Peddie single-handed, the senior captain, Major Gore, having been unable from an attack of gout to render any assistance as a mounted officer. Under the circumstances I attached Lieut. Colcroft, the garrison quartermaster and formerly adjutant of the 36th Regiment, to the 95th to aid with the duties of the adjutancy until a new adjutant can be appointed ; and as Lieut. Colcroft is a good officer I feel assured that this arrangement will be attended with benefit. . . . As it is absolutely necessary that Ensign Main should be replaced as soon as possible, I wrote, before Lt.-Col. Wylly's arrival, to Sir Frederick Adam,† as there was no officer in this garrison (except Lieut. Tweed, 95th, who had acted as adjutant previous to Mr. Main's appointment and whom I do not con-

* Christopher Main, a Waterloo man, gazetted ensign and adjutant 4th August, 1825.

† Commanding in the Ionian Islands where the 7th and 90th were then stationed.

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sider competent) disposed to offer as a candidate, to endeavour to procure me one from the Fuzileers or 90th Regiment, and I am glad to be able to state that Quartermaster Simpson of the Fuzileers, formerly sergeant-major, has been strongly recommended by Major Mair, commanding the Regiment. Lt.-Col. Wylly fully approves of this selection and writes by this mail to recommend him for the adjutancy, and in the meantime I have written to request that he may be sent here by the first opportunity from Corfu. . . ."

Thomas Simpson was accordingly gazetted to the 95th this year, as ensign in April and as adjutant in May, and about the same time the following non-commissioned officers of the 7th Fusiliers were promoted into the 95th: Colour-Sergeant Anthony Ellis to be sergeant-major, Sergeant Edward Keith to be quartermaster-sergeant, and Corporal Timothy Kilfoyle to be sergeant.

The Inspection Report for November, 1826, is expressed in very laudatory terms: "The general state of discipline is very satisfactory . . . the system is improved and is likely to secure cheerful obedience of all ranks . . . the 95th Regiment has made great progress in drill and discipline . . . the men are gaining in appearance and there also appears now to be so much proper feeling in all ranks, that if Lt.-Col. Wylly's health holds good I look forward to be able to report the Regiment perfectly efficient in the next half year."

The next report, that for May, 1827, was not made by Gen. Sir A. Woodford, who had been transferred, apparently, to command the troops in the Ionian Islands; he had been succeeded in Malta by Major-Gen. the Hon. F. C. Ponsonby, who wrote: "I had every reason to be perfectly satisfied with my inspection, and I conceive the Regiment is perfectly effective for any service."

In the winter of 1826 Major Pringle Taylor seems to have gone home to the depot, and in July Major Blane went to England on sick leave, leaving Col. Wylly in command and Capt. Gibbons, the senior captain, as officiating second-in-command; but in the November Report we read: "Lt.-Col. Wylly was taken ill in the month of July and died on the 10th of this month; he continued in command of the Regiment till about six weeks ago, when his illness became very

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serious. . . . Nothing can be better than the discipline established. . . . I am most happy now to express my unqualified approbation of the appearance of the 95th in the field and in quarters."

Col. Wylly was buried on the 12th November in No. 2 Quarantine Cemetery, and the following brief account of his services appeared in *Colborn's Magazine* for July, 1843, written by the hand of some former comrade: "It is well known in the Army that the late Lt.-Col. Wylly, C.B., of the 7th Fusiliers, was for a number of years the aide-de-camp and confidential friend of the late Sir Edward Pakenham; and it is also well known that the gallant Sir Edward, at New Orleans, expired in the arms of his attached friend and companion. The services of Lt.-Col. Wylly, as will be seen by the following statement of them, were of no common limit, and to those who knew him, and witnessed his gallant conduct while placed beside his General, the late Sir Edward Pakenham, at the Battle of Fuentes d'Onor, and also his cool and determined bravery at the head of the 3rd Division, commanded by Pakenham, at the Battle of Salamanca, this memoir will be read with interest, although some years have elapsed since his death.

"While in command of the Fusiliers, he was regarded by his officers more in the light of a friend ready to give advice than by harshness to enforce obedience. By the soldiers he was idolised, and it is a just eulogium to say he followed the example of his lamented friend, Gen. Pakenham, a man whose gallantry in the field and kind solicitude for the happiness of his officers and the comfort of his soldiers is too well known in the Army to need any remark from us.

"The late Lt.-Col. Wylly, at the age of twenty, was appointed to the Fusiliers in the year 1807, and his services were as follows: 1807, Sept. 7th, Siege and capture of Copenhagen; 1809, Jan. 1st, Led the forlorn hope at Martinique; 1810, Sept. 27th, Battle of Busaco; Oct. 13th, Combat of Burlada; 1811, March 12th, Combat of Redinha; April 8th, Siege of Olivenza; May 7th–15th, Siege of Badajos; May 16th, Battle of Albuhera; Sept. 27th, Combat of Aldea de Ponte (wounded severely); 1812, Jan. 19th, Storming of Ciudad Rodrigo; April 6th, Storming of Badajos; July 14th,

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Combat of Rudea; July 22nd, Battle of Salamanca; Aug. 12th, Capture of Madrid; 1813, June 21st, Battle of Vittoria; July 25th, Battle of Roucevalles; July 27th, Battle of Pampeluna; Aug. 2nd, Battle of Echallar; 1814, Feb. 27th, Battle of Orthes; April 10th, Battle of Toulouse; 1815, Jan. 8th, Storming of New Orleans; June 16th–18th, Battles of Quatre Bras and Waterloo.*

"He was afterwards appointed to the command of the 95th Regiment, which appointment was offered to him by H.R.H. the late Duke of York in consequence of his distinguished services."

Nearly *seventy-three* years after Col. Wylly's death his grave was found and restored by his grandson, then serving as second-in-command at Malta of his old Regiment, which also caused to be painted and set up in the Barracca Church a memorial to those officers and men of the Corps who had died during the two periods when the Regiment had helped to garrison the island.

Col. Wylly was succeeded in command of the 95th by Lt.-Col. Robert Anwyl, the senior major of the 4th Foot, with which regiment he had served in the Peninsular War, receiving a medal for St. Sebastian at the siege of which fortress he was brigade-major of Major-Gen. Pringle's brigade.

It will be remembered that Major Taylor left Malta at the end of 1826 to serve at the Depot, and while there he seems to have been the cause of an important circular which was sent to all general officers commanding by the Adjutant-General. This circular was dated the 6th December, 1827, and it appears from it that Major Taylor had been brought before a Court of Inquiry by reason of certain imputations cast upon him by a coroner's jury in regard to the death of a certain Private Joseph Peterkin of the 95th, the jury being apparently of the opinion that this man's death had been caused by punishment awarded him by the O. C. Depot. The Court of Inquiry, however, found that no grounds existed for the imputation and that Peterkin's death was due to disease of some standing, neither caused nor aggravated by the punishment inflicted. In this view the Judge Advocate General concurred.

* Had he lived he would have received the Peninsular Medal with *ten* clasps

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But the Commander-in-Chief was "concerned to remark that Major Taylor appears to have acted in a very inconsiderate manner in regard to many of the Courts-Martial which he had ordered and confirmed, the causes were in some cases trivial, sentences not consistent with the evidence, and punishments severe for the offences." In the proceedings and records there was a want of regularity, precision and order. But the circular went on to point out that various other punishments of a novel and extraordinary character had been awarded—confinement in the Black Hole for three days; heavy marching-order drill for twelve hours with half-hour intervals for meals; forcing men to stand with their faces to a wall, and, in one instance, tying a man to a fence who had refused to stand facing it.

These punishments, it seems, had been inflicted, not only by Major Taylor but by subordinate officers and even by non-commissioned officers—in some cases without Major Taylor's knowledge.

It was admitted that Taylor had found the Depot discipline in a bad state on arrival, but while there were only 250 men at the Depot there had been 509 punishments by confinement in six months, and all this, in the considered opinion of the C.-in-C., "seems due to a desire to avoid corporal punishment," and Major Taylor was ordered to leave the Depot and rejoin regimental headquarters.

As we know, it was not until 1868 that corporal punishment in the Army was abolished in peace time, being finally done away with in 1881; but we are so frequently told that it was abolished in face of strenuous opposition from the officers of the Army that it is curious to find, as far back as 1827, regimental officers inventing fancy punishments in order to *avoid* awarding punishment by the lash.

Major Taylor's good intentions—the avoidance of flogging—do not appear to have been appreciated by the young soldiers of his day, for they seem to have marked their disapproval of his methods by a rather unusual form of playfulness—on no less than three occasions firing at him with buttons and pebbles; this rather exaggerated humour has, happily, fallen into disuse.

There is but little more to chronicle about the stay of the

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95th in Malta ; the Inspection Reports now are laudatory and even flattering. The only fault, if fault it be, was that there was an undue proportion of old soldiers, the Regiment containing a larger percentage of long-service men than any other corps in the Army.

Towards the end of 1829 the 73rd arrived at Malta in relief of the 95th, now under orders for the Ionian Islands, and embarkation commenced on the 24th December, when the first division of the Regiment left in the *Lord Suffield* under Capt. Hall, disembarking at Corfu on the 28th ; the second division, the headquarters, under Major Cockburn, also sailed on the 24th in the *Stentor*, reaching its destination on the 27th ; while the third division, commanded by Capt. Fraser, embarked on the 5th and 8th January, 1830, in the *Henry Porcher*, sailed on the 8th, and landed at Corfu on the 15th.

It will be noticed that Lt.-Col. Anwyl did not accompany the Regiment to Corfu ; he was probably on leave in England pending retirement on half-pay, on which he was placed in June, 1830.

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IV

1ST BATTALION NOTES

OUR last notes gave an account of our doings up to the arrival of the Battalion at Cork on 27th June, 1921.

On 11th July, 1921, the Battalion moved from Ballincollig to Skibbereen, embarking in two destroyers in Cork Harbour and disembarking at a small village, Castle Townshend, about 5½ miles from Skibbereen. The Regimental Transport and approximately 100 Other Ranks left two days previously to carry out the journey by road.

On arrival at Skibbereen we found ourselves encamped on what was known as the Town Park, which in reality was the local show ground. This ground was entirely in a hollow, with a corrugated fence all round it; moreover, our camp was looked into from all sides, and from a tactical point of view could not be described as a desirable camping ground. Fortunately the Armistice came into force on the day of our arrival, otherwise we should undoubtedly have had to find other quarters.

A long and tedious period of waiting ensued, during which the Government and the Irish representatives held many conferences and meetings regarding the future of Ireland.

At the end of August the fine weather broke and after a few days of rain our camp became unhabitable, with the result that a move had to be made into winter quarters: Battalion Headquarters and Letter C Company moving into Liss Ard House, Letter D Company moving into the Town Hall at Skibbereen, and Letters A and B Companies proceeding to Clonakilty and Courtmacsherry, the Workhouse and the Coastguard Station being occupied at the latter places.

Owing to the situation in Ireland we had been told that we would not be called upon to find a draft for the 2nd Battalion, but to our great surprise in December we were ordered to

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send the draft to the Depot to be prepared for embarking. This draft left the Battalion forty-eight hours after the orders were received, and had hostilities broken out again we should have been absolutely powerless to do anything owing to our weakness in numbers and having still to find four detachments. After the Treaty had been signed, the Clonakilty and Courtmacsherry detachments concentrated at Bandon preparatory to our leaving the country.

The last few days in Ireland were a busy time for the Quartermaster and his satellites, as all the stores—barbed wire and sand-bags which we had collected during our stay had to be disposed of locally, also the contents of the Barracks at Bandon. These stores were sold by auction just prior to our departure.

The Battalion embarked at Cork in s.s. *Bandon* on 31st January, 1922, to everybody's delight, on its return to Blackdown. On arrival at Blackdown we found our friends the draft, who had left us six weeks previously, still waiting for orders to proceed to Egypt. They had been sent from Derby to Blackdown owing to lack of accommodation at the Depot. This draft, consisting of 219 Other Ranks, eventually left us in two parties on the 6th and 7th of March.

We were more fortunate this year over our Badajoz Celebrations. It will be remembered that last year we had to move to London on strike duty on Badajoz Day. This year the ceremony of Trooping the Regimental Colour was revived, and was excellently carried out, despite the fact that very little time was available to practise. 2nd Lieut. P. N. White carried the Colour, Capt. C. L. Harding, M.C., commanded the Escort, and Lieut. S. Gregory was the Subaltern of the Escort.

Major-Gen. Sir R. H. K. Butler, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., Commanding 2nd Division, presented medals to several N.C.O.'s and men after the Parade. In the evening the Sergeants gave their Annual Badajoz Ball, which was a great success, all the arrangements being excellently carried out.

In May His Majesty the King payed a visit to the Aldershot Command, but he did not come to see us at Blackdown. The Band, however, had the honour of playing before their Majesties at luncheon on 24th May at the Royal Pavilion.

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Pre-war full dress uniform with a few modifications has been issued to the Band and Drums, and they took part in the Annual Searchlight Tattoo in aid of the Aldershot Military Charities in this kit on the 14th, 15th and 16th of June.

On the 17th of June Lt.-Col. Bromley Way, C.B.E., M.V.O., proceeded on leave pending retirement, and Major J. H. Wybergh assumed command of the Battalion.

On the 2nd of July the Battalion moved to Cowshott Common, Bisley, for the Army Rifle Association Meeting and the National Rifle Association Meeting, having been selected to perform the Marking Duties.

Unfortunately the weather during the Army Meeting was very bad, with heavy rain every day and several gales which played havoc with our tents.

At the conclusion of the National Rifle Association Meeting the Battalion returned to Blackdown on the 23rd of July, with the satisfaction that everybody concerned was very pleased with the way we had carried out our duties.

As is well known, a Regimental Memorial is to be erected at Crich in memory of those members of the Regiment who were killed during the War. In order to raise the necessary funds a Flag Day was held throughout the counties of Derby and Nottingham on August 7th. The Band and Drums went to Derby to assist in bringing their County Regiment to the notice of the local inhabitants, the Band playing in Derby and the Drums in Nottingham, and it is very satisfactory to hear that practically all the money required has been raised either as a result of the Flag Day or by subscription.

On the 12th of August Lt.-Col. W. N. S. Alexander, D.S.O., was gazetted to Command the Battalion from the Connaught Rangers on disbandment, assuming Command on the 24th of August.

Our Regimental Sports were held on the Garrison Cricket Ground on the 5th and 6th of September, a new feature being a Marching Order Race. Maj.-Gen. B. Burnett Hitchcock, C.B., D.S.O., presented the prizes at the conclusion of the sports, and also the other Battalion Trophies to the Companies which had won them for the year.

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Changes. Promotions, Etc.

OFFICERS

Lt.-Col. B. G. V. Way, C.B.E., M.V.O., to retired pay 28.6. 1922. Lt.-Col. W. N. S. Alexander, D.S.O., from the Connaught Rangers and in Command 12.8.22. Lt.-Col. R. S. Popham, C.M.G., D.S.O., promoted Lieutenant-Colonel 26.2. 22, and to 2nd Battalion in Command 6.3.22. Major (Bt.-Lt.-Col.) K. C. Weldon, D.S.O., from Royal Dublin Fusiliers 2.8.22. Major (Bt.-Lt.-Col.) R. S. Hart, D.S.O., to 2nd Battalion 28.4. 22. Major W. Swinhoe Phelan, to retired pay 28.5.22. Major A. B. Wayte, D.S.O., to retired pay 22.2.22. Capt. J. MacD. Needham, to half-pay 29.4.22. Capt. C. L. Harding, M.C., from Depot 12.11.21. Capt. M. J. Kenny, from Connaught Rangers 2.8.22, and to 2nd Battalion. Capt. E. E. Sullivan Tailyour, M.C., promoted Captain 17.12.21, and to East Africa 1.9.21. Capt. J. H. Slaughter, promoted Captain 23.1.22, and to 2nd Battalion 24.4.22. Capt. C. R. Chambers, M.C., D.C.M., promoted Captain 18.2.22, and to retired pay 12.6.22. Capt. J. McGevor, M.B.E., from South Staffordshire Regiment 2.7. 21. Lieut. G. N. Royce, M.C., to retired pay 14.12.21. Lieut. A. S. Edwards, M.C., to 2nd Battalion 23.2.22. Lieut. J. O. Widdows, M.C., joined Battalion on 1st appointment 8.9.21 and retired 1.6.22. Lieut. J. W. Turner, M.C., retired 1.6.22. Lieut. R. G. Milward, retired 28.5.22. Lieut. R. V. L. Hutchings, M.C., from M.G. Corps 11.6.21. Lieut. F. E. Jones. M.C., to 10th Battalion London Regiment as Adjutant 5.1.22. Lieut. M. H. Cooper, from M.G. Corps 23.7.21, and to Depot 28.1.22. Lieut. H. E. R. Twamley, retired 28.5.22. Lieut. W. Weston, M.C., D.C.M., retired 12.6.22. Lieut. C. W. H. Dobbs, from Depot 28.1.22, and to retired pay 29.3.22. Lieut. H. C. V. Warneford, M.C., retired 28.5.22. Lieut. H. V. Smith, D.C.M., retired 28.5.22. Lieut. T. J. Sellis, M.C., retired 20.6.22. Lieut. R. F. Bernal, joined on 1st appointment 19.9.21. Lieut. H. F. Coleman, promoted Lieutenant 17.12.21, and appointed Assistant Adjutant 6.1.22. Lieut. A. C. C. Johnson, promoted Lieutenant 17.12.21. Lieut. E. H. Collins, promoted Lieutenant 16.7.22. 2nd Lieut. P. N. White, joined on 1st appointment 2.2.22. 2nd Lieut. H. W. H. Houghton, transferred to the Sherwood Foresters from R. Dublin Fusiliers 26.8.22.

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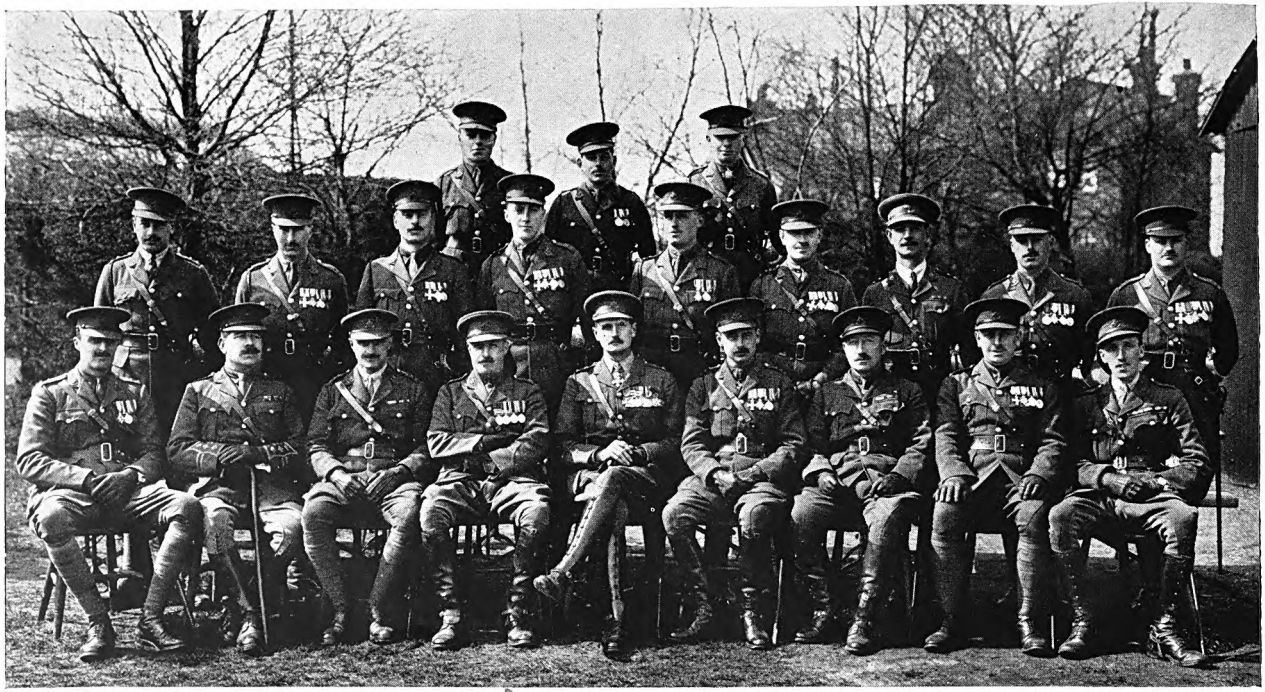

OFFICERS 1st BATTALION. 6th April, 1922

Back Row—2nd Lieut. E. H. Collins, Lieut. C. H. A. Sturge, 2nd Lieut. P. N. White
Middle Row—Lieut. H. F. Coleman, Lieut. J. W. Turner, M.C., Lieut. H. C. V. Warneford, M.C., Lieut. A. Andrews, M.C., Lieut. S. Gregory, Lieut. J. O. Widdows, M.C., Lieut. P. A. de V. Reynolds, A.E.C., Lieut. H. V. Smith, D.C.M., Lieut. W. Weston, M.C., D.C.M.
Front Row—Lieut. R. G. Milward, Capt. and Q.M. J. McGevor, M.B.E., Capt. C. S. Crofton, Maj. J. H. Wybergh, Lt.-Col. B. G. V. Way, C.B.E., M.V.O., Capt. and Adjt. R. B. Tower, M.C., Maj. W. Swinhoe Phelan, Capt. C. L. Harding, M.C., Lieut. A. C. Willison, D.S.O., M.C.

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2nd Lieut. C. E. Bleck, posted to Battalion on 1st appointment 31.8.22. 2nd Lieut. A. de B. Morris, posted to Battalion on 1st appointment 31.8.22. 2nd Lieut. S. O. Boyd, posted to Battalion on 1st appointment 31.8.22.

OTHER RANKS

To R.S.M., C.S.M. W. E. Howitt. *To C.S.M.I.M.*, Sergt. J. McCormack. *To C.S.M.*, C.Q.M.S. C. Knights. *To Sergts.*, Lce.-Sergts. Cumming, Blake, Styring, Jenks, Smith, J., and Smith, P. *To Lce.-Sergts.*, Corpls. Billington, Pike, King, Drake, Piper, Marston and Sinton. *To Corpls.*, Lce.-Corpls. Rillett, Johnson, Eyre, Franks, Crawley, Brown, Bowling, Staples, Cumberland, Lumley, Berrington, Wagstaff, Shaw, O'Connor. *To Regtl. Depot*, C.S.M.'s Howarth, Underwood and King; Sergts. Matthews, Mortimer, Applebee, Styring, Waldron and Stoton; Corpls. Haslam, Mosely, Crawley, Butler and Riley. *To Terr. Force*, R.Q.M.S. Cranage, C.S.M.'s Neynoe and Thompson, Clr.-Sergt. Armstrong, Sergts. Solari and Wilson. *From Terr. Force*, C.S.M.'s Underwood and Bennett, Clr.-Sergts. Watson and Richards. *To 2nd Battn.*, C.S.M. Bennett, Corpls. Magness, Buck and Woodward. *Transfers*, R.S.M. Howitt from 2nd Scots Guards, Sergt. Dowse from Rifle Brigade, Sergt. Harrison from Rifle Brigade. Sergt. Howell from Rifle Brigade, Sergt. Green from Worcestershire Regt., Sergt. Godfrey from Royal Dublin Fusiliers, C.S.M. McDermott from Royal Dublin Fusiliers, Corpl. Wade from Royal Dublin Fusiliers, Corpl. Tougher from Royal Dublin Fusiliers, Corpl. Martin from Royal Dublin Fusiliers, Corpl. Rock from Royal Dublin Fusiliers, Corpl. Finnigan from Royal Dublin Fusiliers, Corpl. Slack from Machine Gun Corps, Sergt. Jarvis to 1st Battn. K.O.S.B. as Bandmaster.

GARRISON APPOINTMENT

R.Q.M.S. Warmer, D.C.M., M.M., to G.Q.M.S., Blackdown and Deepcut Garrison.

CERTIFICATES

S.A.S. Hythe (Rifle and Bayonet): Capt. R. B. Tower, M.C., Lieut. B. G. Allen (Distinguished), Lieut. H. F. Coleman,

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C.S.M.I.M. Neynoe, C.S.M.I.M. McCormack (Distinguished), Sergt. Forresters.

Light Gun: Capt. R. B. Tower, M.C., Capt. H. L. B. Mills, Lieut. A. Andrews, M.C., Sergt. Cunningham, Sergt. Townsend, Sergt. Rose, Sergt. Stoton.

Light Mortar: Capt. R. B. Tower, M.C., Capt. H. L. B. Mills, Lieut. A. C. C. Johnson (Distinguished), Act.-Corpl. Wagstaff.

Machine Gun School, Seaford: Capt. H. L. B. Mills, Lieut. H. F. Coleman, Sergt. Forrester, Sergt. Conduit, Sergt. Blake, Act.-Corpl. Berrington.

Signalling, Maresfield: Lieut. R. V. L. Hutchings, M.C., Corpl. Eyre, Corpl. Lumley.

Physical Training, Aldershot: Corpl. Johnson, Lce.-Corpl. Mansfield.

Chisledon: Sergt. Blake, C.Q.M.S.'s Course; Lce.-Corpl. Thorpe, Cookery Course; Pte. Wakefield, Cookery Course.

Farriery, Aldershot: Pte. Hyde.

Chiropody, Aldershot: Bandsman Gilman.

MEDALS FOR LONG SERVICE AND GOOD CONDUCT

R.Q.M.S. Cranage, C.S.M. Howarth, Sergt. Brannan, Sergt. Cornelius, Sergt. Bradley, Sergt. Hoskins.

DEATHS

Bandsman Clemer, Cork, 6.9.21, from lympathic leukaemia.

Pte. George, Aldershot, 1.10.21, from aneurism of common iliac.

Pte. Young, Aldershot, 6.4.22, from Jaundice.

Boxing Notes

The situation in Ireland did not permit of the Battalion holding any Boxing Tournaments, but on return to Blackdown in February the art of pugilism was entered into with enthusiasm, noticeably among the recruits.

A period of seven weeks' training culminated in the first Boxing Tournament, which was held in the Garrison Gymnasium, Blackdown, on 20th and 21st March, 1922.

Some splendid fighting was witnessed, and the Tournament attracted a large number of spectators from the Garrison.

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The prizes were presented on the second evening by Maj.-Gen. B. Burnett Hitchcock, C.B., D.S.O., who had made a special journey from the North of England to attend. He made a short and appropriate speech, expressing his appreciation of the boxing and also in being with the Regiment once again.

Two events were open to the Garrison, the remaining events being reserved for novices of the Battalion.

After many keen preliminary rounds the results were :—

Light Weight (Open) : Gnr. O'Loughlin, 8th Bgde. R.F.A., beat Pte. Welding, 1st South Wales Borderers.

Welter-Weight (Open) : Pte. Hamilton, 1st Sherwood Foresters, beat Pte. Hounsell, 1st South Wales Borderers.

Middle-Weight (Novices) : Lce.-Corpl. Wagstaffe, D Company, beat Bandsman Frape, D Company.

Welter-Weight (Novices) : Pte. Aspinshaw, A Company, beat Pte. Eccles, B Company.

Light-Weight (Novices) : Corpl. Ashmore, C Company, beat Pte. Peat, C Company.

Feather-Weight (Novices) : Corpl. Bowling, D Company, beat Pte. Silkstone, C Company.

Bantam-Weight (Novices) : Pte. Holland, C Company, beat Pte. Walker, A Company.

Boys Competition : Boy Latham, D Company, beat Boy Welch, C Company.

The second and last Tournament of the season was held on 25th and 26th May and proved even a greater attraction than the first. All the events were open to the Garrison, and the hall was packed. Lt.-Col. B. G. V. Way, C.B.E., M.V.O., presented a cup for the Unit who had gained the highest number of points at the Tournament. This was won by the 1st Battalion The South Wales Borderers with a total of forty-seven points. We finished second with a total of twenty-seven, and we congratulate the winners on their success. The prizes on this occasion were presented by Col.-Commandant F. W. Ramsay, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., Commanding 6th Infantry Brigade, who in a short speech congratulated the boxers and officials on the success of the Tournaments. The Referee also spoke of the high standard of boxing and of

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the sportsmanlike manner in which the contests were fought. At this Tournament the Heavy-Weight Championship of the Blackdown and Deepcut Garrison was decided, the contestants being Sergt. Kingswell, 1st A.A. Brigade, R.F.A., and Pte. Pryce, 1st Battalion The South Wales Borderers, Pryce proving the winner, Kingswell having to retire in the third round with a broken thumb.

We hope to arrange further Tournaments during the coming winter, and judging by the success of last season they will undoubtedly prove popular.

Winners and Runners-up (2nd Tournament)

Welter-Weight: Pte. Moran, 1st S.W.B., beat Sergt. Gibson, 1st A.A. Bgde. R.F.A.

Light-Weight: Dvr. Higgins, 8th Bgde. R.F.A., beat Pte. Logan, 1st S.W.B.

Feather-Weight: Dvr. McConvery, 8th Bgde. R.F.A., beat Pte. Jeffrey, 1st S.F.

Light-Weight: Bandsman Mitchell, 1st. S.F., beat Lce.-Corpl. Anthoney, 1st S.F.

Bantam-Weight: Boy Rosier, 1st S.W.B., beat Pte. Whittaker, 1st S.W.B.

Fly-Weight: Boy Harnden, 1st S.W.B., beat Pte. Talbot, 1st S.F.

Middle-Weight: Corpl. Knight, 1st S.W.B., beat Gnr. Savage, 8th Bgde. R.F.A.

Rifle Meetings and Matches

For the first time since the War the Battalion has been able to enter teams for the Army Rifle Meeting which was held at Bisley.

The matches entered for were the following :—

1. *The Army Championship:* C.S.M. Farley, Sergts. Sturgess and Brannan, and Pte. Slater.
2. *The Roberts' Cup:* Capt. C. S. Crofton, Lieut. B. G. Allen, Lieut. S. Gregory, Lieut. E. H. Collins, C.S.M. Farley, Sergt. Sturgess, Sergt. Townsend, and Pte. Slater.
3. *The Young Soldiers' Cup.*
4. *The Machine Gun Match.*
5. *The Henry Whitehead Cup.*

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The last three of the above matches have yet to be fired on the Regimental Ranges. In the first two matches we were unsuccessful in gaining any prizes, but it is to be hoped that the experience gained will prove beneficial for next year.

Private Davis of Letter C Company gained first place in the Sweepstake for Markers and Register Keepers, and won £3.

The Army Rifle Meeting was followed closely by the Aldershot Command Rifle Meeting, which was held on Ash Ranges from the 9th to the 12th of August. The Battalion entered teams for the following competitions :—

The Officers' Challenge Cup : Lieuts. B. G. Allen and E. H. Collins.

The Sergeants' Challenge Cup : C.S.M. Farley, C.S.M.I.M. McCormack, and Sergt. Townsend.

The Corporals' Challenge Cup : Corpls. Messom, Eyre and Staples.

Rank and File Challenge Cup : Lce.-Corpl. Watson, Ptes. Miller, Hodgkinson, Roberts, Bucklow and Potter.

W.O.'s and Sergeants' Match : C.S.M. Farley, C.S.M.I.M. McCormack, C.Q.M.S. Watson, Sergts. Townsend, Slater and Cumming.

Young Soldiers' Challenge Cup : 2nd Lieut. P. N. White, Ptes. Blewitt, Davies, Brownhill, Lee, Walker, Gardiner, Robinson, Mason and Clarke.

The Imperial Tobacco Challenge Cup : Sergt. Sturgess, Lce.-Corpl. Jeffrey, Ptes. Giles, Spencer, Rowley, Moore and Bull.

The Smith-Dorrien Challenge Cup : The Machine Gun Platoon.

Machine Gun—The Machine Gun Match : The Machine Gun Platoon.

The shooting in these matches was an improvement on that of the Army Rifle Meeting, but was still not sufficiently accurate to win many prizes. The Machine Gun Platoon, who had previously given rise to great expectations, unfortunately had an " off " day, and although their turn-out and drill was excellent, their shooting let them down, and they gained fourth and fifth places respectively in their two matches.

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In the sweepstakes Lieut. B. G. Allen, C.S.M. Farley and Sergt. Cumming won prizes.

The Young Soldiers' Team, who were disappointing in their practice shooting, did very well, and were only 18 points behind the winners in their competition.

Now that a start has been made, it is to be hoped that interest in Rifle Shooting will be revived and sustained in the Battalion.

Football Notes

The Battalion being stationed in Ireland at the commencement of the season 1921–22, it was impossible to arrange any Battalion matches.

The team was entered for the Army Cup. In the first round of the cup we were drawn against the 2nd Battalion King's Own Scottish Borderers at Bere Island.

The team, not having previously played together and drawn against a more experienced team, was beaten by three goals to one, although at one time in the second half the Battalion team rallied and looked like scoring on more than one occasion.

The following team represented the Battalion: Sergt. Townsend; Corpl. Rillet, Sergt. Cunningham; Lce.-Sergt. Nicholls, Pte. Goodfellow, C.Q.M.S. Armstrong, Lieut. Hutchings, Pte. Banner, Pte. Adams, Lce.-Corpl. Neep, Pte. Harrison.

On arrival in England the Battalion entered for the Aldershot Senior, Junior and Boys' Knock-Out Competitions.

Senior League Knock-Out Competition

The team was unfortunately knocked out in the first round by the 1st Battalion The South Wales Borderers. It was a very keen and hard game, but the 24th Regiment were obviously the better team and won by three goals to one.

Junior Knock-Out Competition

Highly successful from start to finish, the team were very keen, and played a vigorous game throughout. Pte. Benn (goalkeeper) requires special note, he played marvellously in

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2ND FOOTBALL XI—1ST BATTALION

6TH APRIL, 1922

Back Row—Pte. HAMILTON, Pte. BENN, R.M.S. HOWITT, Pte. EVANS, Lce.-Sgt. HIAM
Middle Row—Pte. JOHNSON, Lce.-Cpl. NEEP, Bdsm. PAVIOUR, Pte. WATSON, Pte. NEWTON, Sgt. SLATER, Cpl. MESSOM

Aldershot Command Junior League Shield. Won for Season 1921-1922

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every game. Unfortunately for the Battalion he was discharged, being a Short Service man.

1st Round. Played against the 1st Battalion South Wales Borderers at Blackdown. Result—Win. Two to love.

2nd Round. Played against 3rd Battalion Coldstream Guards at Blackdown. Result—Win. Two to love.

This team had not been beaten this season up to this match.

Semi-Final. Played against the 2nd Battalion East Surrey Regiment at Aldershot. Result—Win. Two to love.

Final. Played on the New Command Ground at Aldershot against the 12th Brigade Royal Field Artillery.

It was a most thrilling game from start to finish. Although the 12th Brigade were the stronger team, the Battalion managed to beat them by four goals to three goals after half an hour's extra play.

The Gunners scored two goals in the first half. Ten minutes from the end the Battalion managed to score two goals, thus equalising the score. The equalising goal was scored practically on time. It was decided to play half an hour extra. The gunners again scored in the first half. In the second half the Battalion scored, again equalising. One minute from time the Battalion broke away and scored amidst the wildest enthusiasm, thus winning the Junior Aldershot Command Shield.

The team who represented the Battalion in winning the shield were: Pte. Benn; Pte. Hamilton, Pte. Evans; Sergt. Slater, Sergt. Hiam, Corpl. Messom; Pte. Johnson, Lce.-Corpl. Neep, Lce.-Corpl. Paviour, Pte. Watson, Pte. Newton.

Boys' Knock-Out Competition

The Battalion team were beaten in the first round by the 1st Battalion The South Wales Borderers by three goals to one.

The Annual Football Match between the Officers and the Sergeants was played at Blackdown and resulted in a win for the Officers by three goals to two. Major Wybergh (centre forward) played a very hard and good game. The teams were:—

Officers: Lieut. Collins; Lieut. Weston, Lieut. Widdows; Lieut. Allen, 2nd Lieut. White, Lieut. Coleman; Lieut. Sturge, Lieut. Hutchings, Major Wybergh, Lieut. Johnson, Lieut. Gregory.

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Sergeants: Sergt. Jenks, C.S.M. Howarth, Sergt. Hiam, Sergt. Tindall, C.S.M. Underwood; Sergt. Smith, Sergt. Townsend, Sergt. Slater; Sergt. Stoton, Sergt. Cunningham; Sergt. Dr. Phillips.

The Company Football Shield was played for on the League System, and provided some exciting matches, the winners being Letter B Company (Lieut.-Col. C. H. Dumbell, D.S.O.) with a lead of 9 points. The actual figures were: Played 6, won 5, drawn 1.

Hockey Notes

When we arrived from Ireland on February 1st the hockey season was nearly over, and so we decided that we must content ourselves with playing for the Company Shield and with friendly matches with our next door neighbours, The South Wales Borderers, who returned from Ireland shortly after us.

The Company Shield was fought out with the greatest enthusiasm, and the result was always in doubt right up to the last match. As a matter of fact the issue was only between three companies, A, B and D, since C Company were much below the standard.

The result so worked out that in the last match played A Company had to beat D Company by two clear goals to win. They rose to the occasion and beat them by four clear goals, the final score being 5—1, thus making sure of the championship.

The position of the various Companies resulted as follows:—

Coy.	Played.	Won	Lost.	Drawn.	Points.	Goals for.	Goals against.
A	3	2	1	0	4	14	3
B	3	2	1	0	4	6	3
D	3	2	1	0	4	11	6
C	3	0	3	0	0	0	19

The following are the names of the winning team: Corpl. Nicholls; Lieut. Weston, 2nd Lieut. White; Sergt. Slater, Lieut. Johnson, Sergt. Drake; C.Q.M.S. Dilkes, Pte. Peach, C.S.M. Howarth, Drummer Stansbie, Corpl. Messom.

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SERGEANTS 1st BATTALION. 6th April, 1922

Back Row—Sgt. Townsend, Sgt. Blake, Sgt. Cornelius, Sgt. Brannan, Lce.-Sgt. J. Smith, Sgt. Conduit, Sgt. McCormack, Sgt. Dunkerley, Lce.-Sgt. Hiam, Sgt. Waldron, M.C.

Third Row—Sgt. Rose, Lce.-Sgt. (O.R.C.) Billington, Sgt. Cunningham, M.M., Lce.-Sgt. Jenks, Sgt. Forrester, Sgt. Tindall, Lce.-Sgt. Styring, Sgt. Sturgess, Sgt. Applebee, Sgt. Slater, Lce.-Sgt. P. Smith, M.M.

Second Row—C.S.M. Underwood, D.C.M., M.M., C.S.M.I.M. Neynoe, C.S.M. Farley, C.Q.M.S. Barber, Sgt. Bradley, S.Sgt. Gray, R.A.O.C., C.Q.M.S. Knights, C.Q.M.S. Dilkes, M.M., Sgt. Burrows, C.Q.M.S. Burdge, Sgt. (O.R.S.) Hallam, Sgt. Dr. Phillips

Front Row—C.S.M. Howarth, D.C.M., C.S.M. King, Bandmaster Dewsall, R.S.M. Howitt, Maj. J. H. Wybergh, Lt.-Col. B. G. V. Way, C.B.E., M.V.O., Capt. and Adjt. R. B. Tower, M.C., Capt. and Q.M. J. McGevor, M.B.E., R.Q.M.S. Cuckson, R.Q.M.S. Warmer, D.C.M., M.M., R.Q.M.S. Cranage

In Front—Sgt. Stoton

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Cricket Notes

On the whole we have had a very fair season. The results —8 matches won, 6 lost and 1 drawn—are not quite what we mean to do in the future, but we have been severely handicapped in many ways. We lost C.S.M. Tomalin and Sergt. Parkinson of our last year's team. Those who knew the 2nd Battalion before the War will know how difficult it has been to replace the former, and one wonders how many matches he has won for the Regiment by his steady length bowling. The latter, besides being a useful slow bowler, was a most promising bat.

Again, we have had practically no opportunity for practice. The Officers go down to the Officers' Club in Aldershot occasionally, but our cricket ground at Blackdown could not even produce a respectable match wicket with matting down on it, and nearly all our matches were played in Aldershot. Net practice on it was out of the question. Then just when we hoped we had settled down to cricket we were ordered to Bisley for Range Duties and we had no cricket for a month.

However, we have been looking hard for new talent amongst the young soldiers, and while we have not discovered anything startling we have not been altogether unsuccessful.

The team was very uncertain at the beginning of the season, but, as we got more practice in matches, improved greatly. Our best match probably was against the East Surrey Regiment, one of the finalists in the Command Inter Unit Competition. Incidentally our win was in no small measure due to the fine fielding of Lce.-Corpl. Watson, one of the new members of the team, who made two brilliant catches in the " out " field.

The fielding has at least been keen under all conditions. Catches have been dropped at critical times, of course, but many good ones made. There has never been the least sign of slacking.

As to bowling, Sergt. Hiam on his day is very good indeed. His ball, just short of the length on the off stump, coming off quickly on to the leg stump, as it does, is a real good one. But he is a little uncertain. Lieut. Allen strained himself at

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the beginning of August and had to try and turn himself into a slow bowler in consequence for the rest of the season. Major Wybergh, handicapped by a bad elbow, could usually be relied upon to break up an annoying partnership. Lieut. Coleman was a good change bowler and should be very useful next year.

AVERAGES

	Wickets.	Runs.	Average.
Lieut. Allen . .	48	541	11·27
Major Wybergh . .	13	160	12·3
Sergt. Hiam . .	37	490	13·24
Lieut. Coleman . .	17	291	17·11

As to batting, Sergt. Townsend, who had no chance of practice, played some very fine innings towards the end of the season. His clean and powerful hitting was delightful, and he does it all without any effort. His long reach made him a most formidable batsman against any bowling, now he has got over the tendency to play back to a length ball on a fast wicket. His one weak spot is the ball just short of the length outside the off stump, which he does not quite get over.

Lieut. Allen has been consistent, but while getting a good many runs through the slips and behind " point," is inclined to be indiscreet and take on ones which would be better left alone.

Major Wybergh nearly always looked like stopping there, but was rather unfortunate in getting out often to the first mistake he made.

Lieut. Johnson did not quite fulfil the promise of last year. He was not quite getting his feet to the ball, but he remedied this towards the end of the season and made some very useful scores. Lieut. Coleman started off very consistently. He has a really nice drive past " cover," but towards the end of the season has apparently been inclined to overreach himself when playing forward. 2nd Lieut. White appears to have suffered from want of practice more than anyone, but we have hopes of great things from him next year.

Unfortunately our " tail " did not produce many runs, and the side nearly always collapsed after the first four or five wickets had fallen.

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BATTING AVERAGES

Name.	Runs.	Highest Score.	Times not out.	Innings.	Average.
Sergt. Townsend .	605	124 not out	4	16	50·4
Lieut. Allen . .	403	67	0	12	33·5
Lieut. Johnson .	192	73	0	14	13·7
Major Wybergh .	155	31	1	14	11·9
Lieut. Coleman .	157	27	0	14	11·2

MATCHES AND RESULTS

Date.	Opponents.	Result.	1st Foresters.	Opponents.
9th May	1st K.R.R.C.	Won	163 for 7	125
17th ,,	R.A.O.C.	Won	86	78
29th ,,	3rd Coldstream Guards	Lost	144	241 for 6
31st ,,	No. 3 Coy. R.M.C.	Lost	107	211 for 6
7th June	37th Brigade R.F.A.	Lost	55	96
17th ,,	No. 3 Coy. R.M.C.	Won	168 for 4	86
28th ,,	1st. Cam. Highlanders	Won	216 for 7	100
6th July	9th Brigade R.F.A.	Lost	83	177
1st Aug.	8th Brigade R.F.A.	Lost	60 & 87	58 & 160
2nd ,,	37th Brigade R.F.A.	Lost	139	175 for 9
17th ,,	37th Brigade R.F.A.	Won	208	111
22nd ,,	2nd East Surrey Regt.	Won	171	150
26th ,,	2nd Royal Scots	Won	98	53
28th ,,	R.A.S.C.	Drawn	156	87 for 8

OFFICERS *versus* SERGEANTS

This match was played on September 2nd. We had some exciting cricket. The rain kept off, and the W.O.'s and Sergeants' hospitality was enjoyed by a large gathering. The Officers were put in first by the Sergeants, and disaster fell upon them. Lieut. Allen was out to the first ball of the match, and Lieut. Coleman in the first over—two wickets for no runs. However, Lieut. Johnson saved the situation, and, while everyone else came out quickly, made 65 not out, out of the total of 85 in the first innings. Sergt. Hiam was bowling at his best. When the Sergeants went in, Sergt. Townsend, as was expected, at once became dangerous, and though he had

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one or two narrow escapes, made a useful 40. But by that time the score was 62 for three wickets, and things looked very black indeed for the Officers. However, wickets then fell quickly until the score was 82 for eight wickets, and excitement was intense. The Sergeants just passed the score, making 86. All was not over, however. The Officers went in again, and while runs came slowly before tea, after tea and other refreshments things were more lively, and 96 runs for three wickets were scored quickly, of which Lieut. Allen made 44. The Sergeants were then put in with an hour and a quarter to go. This time the tables were turned with a vengeance. Sergt. Townsend was out about the second ball of the innings, and the side collapsed for 23, Lieuts. Allen and Coleman taking the wickets, with the result that the Officers eventually won comfortably. It was all very exciting, and everyone enjoyed themselves.

INTER-COMPANY CRICKET SHIELD

Results

B Coy. beat A Coy.	D Coy. beat C Coy.
C Coy. beat A Coy.	D Coy. beat B Coy.
D Coy. beat A Coy.	B *v.* C not played.

D Company having beaten all the other Companies, wins the Shield.

Athletic Notes

Owing to the absence of the Battalion at Bisley, marking for the A.R.A. and N.R.A. Meetings, it was found impossible to enter a Regimental Team for the Command Inter-Unit Athletic Championship. The following qualified in the Individual Competitions in the Group Eliminating Stage :—

Putting the Weight: 1st, Sergt. Townsend, B Coy. High Jump: 2nd, Sergt. Townsend, B Coy. 1 Mile: 1st, Corpl. Staples, B Coy; 2nd, Lce.-Corpl. Storrs, C Coy. 3 Miles: 2nd, Lce.-Corpl. Clarke, B Coy.

However, at the Command Meeting Sergt. Townsend was the only successful competitor—obtaining third place in putting the weight—and was chosen for the Command Team in that event.

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The Inter-Company Cross-country Run, held on August 31st, was won by Letter B Company with 1422 points, against 1322 obtained by D, 824 by C and 621 by A Company. Corpl. Staples, B Company, was the first man home in 33 minutes 50 seconds; Lce.-Corpl. Clarke, B Company, second, and Bandsman Wallbank, D Company, third. A field of 100 started in teams of 25 per Company. The course was 5 miles in length, of which about 2 miles were on gravel road, and the remainder over the rough country of Chobham Ridges. Considering that rain was driving into the faces of the competitors over most of the course, and that the going was very heavy, the time may be regarded as good. Fifty-nine completed the course within the time limit of ten minutes after the first man home.

The Inter-Company Full Marching Order Race took place on the morning of September 2nd. Teams consisted of 1 N.C.O. and 8 men, and a total of 54 started, A Company finding three teams.

The course, which was mainly on road, with a finish of 1000 yards cross country, was 3¼ miles long. The race was won by Letter A Company in the very creditable time of 37 minutes 35 seconds for the whole team: Lce.-Corpl. Bristow (Captain), Lce.-Corpl. Cotterill, Pte. Anthoney, Pte. McCubbin, Pte. Tyler, Pte. Thompson, Pte. Hart, Pte. Legg, Pte. Robinson. Lce.-Corpl. Bristow showed great leadership in bringing his team through the winning post intact, and without a straggler. D Company (Corpl. Brown's team) were the runners-up. The first man home was Pte. Millington, B Company, in 34 minutes 17 seconds, followed by Lce.-Corpl. Clarke, B Company, second and Lce.-Corpl. Mansfield, D Company, third.

The Regimental Athletic Meeting was held on the Garrison Cricket Ground, Blackdown, on September 5th and 6th.

Fortunately the weather, which had hitherto been anything but propitious, was all that could be desired, and everything passed off successfully. The first day was practically confined to heats, and the number of entries for the various events showed that Athletics are as popular as ever. On the Wednesday the Officers and Sergeants were " at home " to a large number of friends of the Regiment, and we were glad to see

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a good proportion of the neighbouring Regiments represented amongst the spectators.

By kind permission of Lt.-Col. A. J. Reddie, C.M.G., D.S.O., and Officers, the Band of the South Wales Borderers (24th Regiment) played during the afternoon.

At the conclusion of the meeting, Maj.-Gen. B. Burnett Hitchcock, C.B., D.S.O., very kindly presented the prizes.

The following is a list of the prize winners :—

100 *Yards* (Time 11⅓ secs.): 1st, Sergt. Sinton, B Coy.; 2nd, Sergt. Townsend, B Coy.; 3rd, Sergt. Hiam, D Coy.

¼ *Mile* (Time 58⅘ secs.): 1st, Sergt. Sinton, B Coy.; 2nd, Lieut. R. V. L. Hutchings, M.C., A Coy.; 3rd, Lce.-Corpl. Neep, D Coy.

½-*Mile* (Time 2 mins. 22 secs.): 1st, Lce.-Corpl. Clarke, B Coy.; 2nd, Corpl. Staples, B Coy.; 3rd, Pte. Tyler, A Coy.

1 *Mile*—open to all troops of Blackdown and Deepcut—(Time 5 mins. 11 secs.): 1st, Corpl. Staples, B Coy.; 2nd, Corpl. Jones, S. W. Borderers; 3rd, Sergt. Hughson, S. W. Borderers.

3 *Miles* (Time 17 mins. 35 secs.): 1st, Lce.-Corpl. Clarke, B Coy.; 2nd, Pte. Mason, D Coy.; 3rd, Pte. Benson, C Coy.

120 *Yards Hurdles* (Time 21⅘ secs.): 1st, Sergt. Townsend, B Coy.; 2nd, Corpl. Eyre, A Coy.; 3rd, Lce.-Corpl. Evans, C Coy.

High Jump (Height 5 ft.): 1st, Sergt. Townsend, B Coy., and Bandsman Mitchell, D Coy.; 3rd, Sergt. Hiam D Coy.

Long Jump (Distance 16 ft. 7 ins.): 1st, Pte. O'Donnell, C Coy.; 2nd, Lce.-Corpl. Evans, C Coy.; 3rd, Sergt. Townsend, B Coy.

Putting the Weight (Distance 32 ft. 7 ins.): 1st, Sergt. Townsend, B Coy.; 2nd, Pte. O'Donnell, C Coy.; 3rd, Lce.-Corpl. Mansfield, D Coy.

Throwing the Cricket Ball (Distance 81 yds. 0 ft. 8 ins.): 1st, Sergt. Townsend, B Coy.; 2nd, Lce.-Corpl. Mansfield, D Coy.; 3rd, Pte. Theobald, B Coy.

Best All-Round Athlete: Sergt. Townsend, B Coy.

The Inter-Company Relay Race was won by B Company with the following team: 1st, Sergt. Sinton (220 yds.); 2nd, Lce.-Corpl. Clarke (440 yds.); 3rd, Corpl. Staples (½-mile); 4th, Sergt. Townsend (220 yds.).

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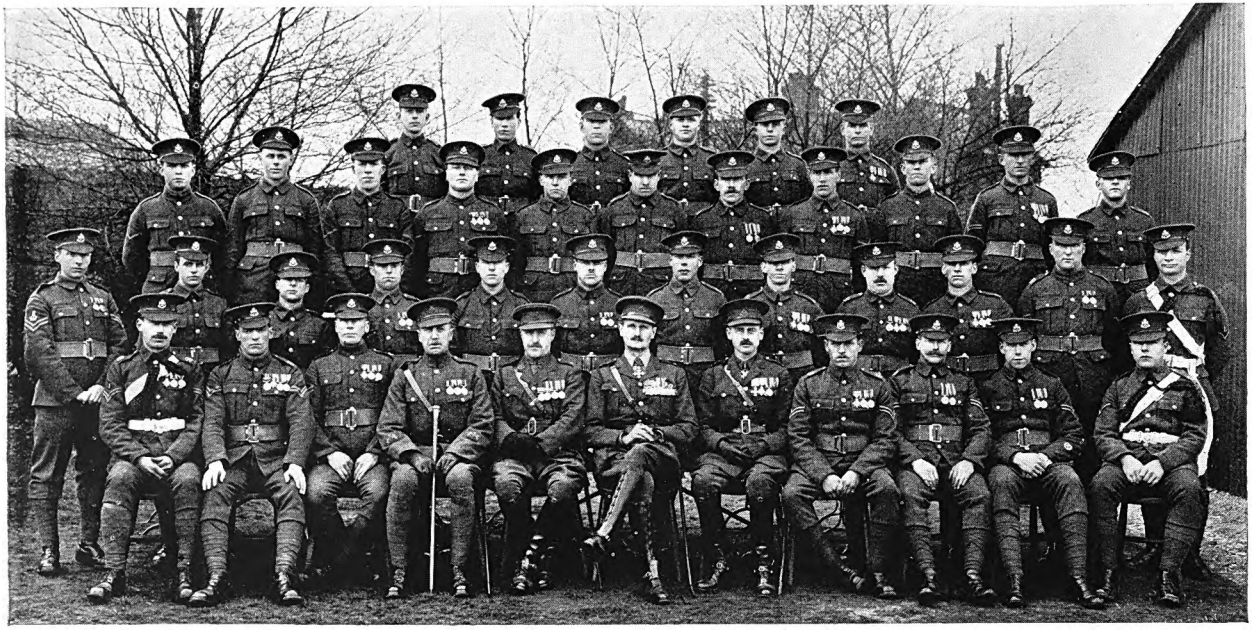

CORPORALS 1st BATTALION. 6th April, 1922

Back Row—Lce.-Cpl. Atkinson, Lce.-Cpl. Wakefield, Lce.-Cpl. Wagstaff, Lce.-Cpl. Bond, Lce.-Cpl. Williams, Cpl. Drake
Third Row—Lce.-Cpl. Reeve, Lce.-Cpl. Mawer, Lce.-Cpl. Simpson, Lce.-Cpl. Summers, Lce.-Cpl. Allcock, Lce.-Cpl. Riley, Cpl. Riley, Lce.-Cpl. Berrington, Cpl. Ashmore, Cpl. Nicholls, Lce.-Cpl. Bowling
Second Row—Cp Tippett, Lce.-Cpl. Roberts, Cpl. Crawley, Cpl. Thomas, Lce.-Cpl. Neep, Lce.-Cpl. Scrutton, Lce.-Cpl. Linthwaite, Lce.-Cpl. Staples, Cpl. Deverall, Cpl. Messom, Lce.-Cpl. Bentley, Lce.-Cpl. Cumberland
First Row—Cpl. Piper, Cpl. Payne, M.M., Cpl. Marston, R.S.M. Howitt, Major J. H. Wybergh, Lieut.-Col. B. G. V. Way, C.B.E., M.V.O., Capt. and Adjt. R. B. Tower, M.C., Cpl. Butler, Cpl. Pike, Cpl. King, Lce.-Cpl. Milward

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The Inter-Company Tug-of-War Shield was won by C Company. Team: Sergts. Tindall and Marston, Corpl. O'Connor, Lce.-Corpl. Lines, Ptes. O'Donnell, Davies, Evans, Stringfellow, Beech and Dixon. Coach: Capt. C. L. Harding, M.C.

Letter B Company were the winners of the Inter-Company Athletic Shield with 154 points against 62 obtained by D, 40 by C and 28 by A Company.

In the Non-Championship Events the following were successful:—

Enlisted Boys' Race (*under* 18), 220 *yds.* (Time 28⅘ secs.): 1st, Boy Turner; 2nd, Boy Martin; 3rd, Boy Gavin.

Tilting the Bucket: Ptes. Moore and Allden.

Sack Race (50 *yds*): 1st, Bandsman Maxwell; 2nd, Lce.-Corpl. Hallam.

Mop Fighting: Bandsmen Wallbank and Mitchell.

Boat Race (50 *yds.*): Corpl. Atherall, Ptes. Mason, Neale, Wrighton and Greetham, D Company.

Children's Race (50 *yds.*), *Handicap:* 1st, A. Bullivant; 2nd, Ena Howitt; 3rd, Audrey Cumming.

Ladies Race (50 *yds.*): 1st, Mrs. Farley; 2nd, Mrs. Slater; 3rd, Mrs. Watson.

Veterans' Race (220 *yds.*), *Handicap:* 1st, C.Q.M.S. Barber; 2nd, Sergt. Slater; 3rd, Bandsman Phillips.

Corporals' Race (220 *yds.*)—Time 27⅕ secs.: 1st, Lce.-Corpl. Old; 2nd, Lce.-Corpl. Wakefield; 3rd, Lce.-Corpl. Neep.

Sergeants' Race (220 *yds.*), *Handicap:* 1st, Sergt. Sinton (scratch—25⅘ secs.); 2nd, Sergt. Hiam; 3rd, C.Q.M.S. Barber.

Officers' Race (220 *yds.*), *Handicap:* Lieut. R. V. L. Hutchings, M.C., (scratch—27 secs.).

List of Officers Serving on 1st October, 1922

Lt.-Col. W. N. S. Alexander, D.S.O. Commanding.
Major J. H. Wybergh. Second-in-command.
Major (Bt.-Lt.-Col.) K. C. Weldon, D.S.O.
" " C. H. Dumbell, D.S.O.
Capt. C. S. Crofton.
" R. B. Tower, M.C. Adjutant.
" H. L. B. Mills.

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Capt. C. L. Harding, M.C.
„ M. J. Kenny. 2nd Battalion.
„ J. McGevor, M.B.E. Quartermaster.
Lieut. B. G. Allen.
„ R. V. L. Hutchings, M.C.
„ C. H. A. Sturge.
„ A. Andrews, M.C.
„ S. Gregory.
„ R. F. Bernal.
„ H. F. Coleman.
„ A. C. C. Johnson.
„ E. H. Collins.
2nd Lieut. P. N. White.
„ H. W. H. Houghton. 2nd Battalion.
„ C. E. Bleck.
„ A. de B. Morris.
„ S. O. Boyd.

Attached

Lieut. P. A. de V. Reynolds. A.E. Corps.
„ W. H. Hynes. R. Dublin Fusiliers.
„ H. B. Harrison, M.C. R. Welch Fusiliers.
Major S. Sato. Imp. Japanese Army.

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V

2ND BATTALION NOTES

CONTRARY to the belief that the Battalion would proceed to Ismailia, as recorded in last year's notes, we were ordered to proceed to Cairo in relief of our old rivals on the Field of Sport, the 2nd Battalion The Middlesex Regiment, who were leaving the command for Singapore. The Battalion waved farewell to Alexandria at midday on the 7th January, being played off by the band of the 2nd Battalion The Royal Munster Fusiliers. Col.-Com. W. G. Braithwaite, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., on saying farewell to the Battalion, congratulated them for their high state of efficiency and keen esprit de corps. On arrival at our new station we were accommodated in the Main Barracks, Abbassia, where for once we had the whole Battalion together, and were able to carry out training and Inter-Company Competitions more effectively. The Desert east of Heliopolis afforded an excellent ground for Company and, later on, Battalion training. During March Brigade training was held at Mena under the shade of the Pyramids and Sphinx. Here some hard training was undergone. Lt.-Col. R. S. Popham, C.M.G., D.S.O., and a draft of 222 Other Ranks had just arrived from England and they accompanied the Battalion on its march of 13 miles under the rays of an " Egyptian sun " after being only two days in the country. After twenty-one days of intensive training the Battalion returned to barracks, but their rest was not to be of a lengthy duration, for on 3rd April were once more on the move to attend Inter-Brigade Manœuvres. After four days of such manœuvres the Battalion naturally expected to settle down to the ordinary routine, but our luck was " dead out." On 4th April a wire had been received ordering us to Constantinople. This came as a bombshell, especially as we had anticipated a stay of anything up to twelve months in Cairo. It was whispered amongst those in the " know " that we should

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proceed at a very early date. This proved to be the case. On the night of 26th April we boarded train for Alexandria, arriving there at 6 a.m. on the morning of the 27th. Unhappily the married families were not allowed to proceed, the usual explanation regarding climate and accommodation being given. It was rather somewhat of a coincidence that our old friends the 2nd Royal Munster Fusiliers supplied us again with farewell notes from their band and drums—quite a happy thought which I am sure was appreciated by all. Mention must be made that our old Colonel-Commandant at Mustapha and the Rev. B. K. Bond, M.C. (Senior Chaplain at Alexandria) had not forgotten us, and were there to wish us God-speed on our new adventure. The following wire was received from Lt.-Gen. Sir W. N. Congreve, V.C., K.C.B., M.V.O., prior to the Battalion embarking for Constantinople: "Regret that I was unable to say good-bye to you and your Battalion on leaving for Constantinople, and so I send you my best wishes for your good fortune and prosperity, thanking you all at the same time for the excellent work you have done under my command."

After an interesting voyage Constantinople was reached on the night of 31st April. On reaching our destination, Bostandjik, next day one could hardly realise the consternation and disappointment felt by all at the place we had to look upon. Vocational Training only was carried out for the first two weeks after our arrival, and it was surprising to see the number of men being trained as Whitewashers, Painters and Town Labourers (until such time as the Camp was in a sanitary and clean condition); then commenced training of a fresh order. During June the Battalion was visited by Lt.-Gen. Sir C. H. Harington, K.C.B., D.S.O., and he was lavish with his compliments as to the turn-out and steadiness of the men on parade.

In the sport line we have again been very successful, the following trophies being won by our sportsmen of various branches:—

E.E.F. Championship Cup
Robert Hughes Charity Cup } for Football.
E.E.F. Championship Cup—for Hockey.
E.E.F. Championship Cup—for Cricket.

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As last year, we had to be content with being placed second for the Cup for the best All-round Sporting Battalion in Egypt. This was won by the 2nd Battalion East Surrey Regiment by the narrow margin of 1½ points. The Battalion was rather unlucky, as we were ordered to Turkey before the finals of the Boxing Championships took place, and were therefore unable to compete for any of the 20 points that were allotted for this sport. We reached the final of our Group in this Competition by defeating the R.G.A. by 22½ points to 12. In a Novices Competition organised by the 2nd East Surrey Regiment, which was open to all Units in the E.E.F., we were successful in annexing four of the Silver Cups which were put up for competition.

Many changes have taken place among our Officers since the last notes were written, and at the present time we are very much understaffed. The following have left us for Civil life, and we take the opportunity of wishing them every success: Major G. L. H. Manby, Major J. H. Mathias, O.B.E., Capt. J. McD. Needham, Capt. (Brevet-Major) I. G. Macbean, M.C., Capt. J. H. Slaughter, Lieut. L. Jacques, M.C., Lieut. C. S. Dornton, and also our Educational Officer, Lieut. E. W. French, M.C.

The following have also left us: Capt. J. H. M. Douglas, M.C., and Lieut. J. K. L. Roberts to Depot for tour of duty. Capt. R. R. Shawcross to Machine Gun School, Seaford, as Instructor. Lieut. N. S. Temple, M.C., to Egyptian Army. Lieut. R. O. Nevitt to take up the duties of Adjutant, 6th Battalion The Sherwood Foresters (T.A.). Lieut. J. C. Boothby, posted to Tank Corps.

We also lost our popular Commander, Lt.-Col. R. J. F. Taylor, C.B.E., who relinquished command after his tenure of four years. His place has been worthily filled by Lt.-Col. R. S. Popham, C.M.G., D.S.O., who has endeared himself to all ranks, especially in the manner in which he interests himself in all branches of sport and the welfare of the Battalion.

The following Officers joined during the year: Major (Brevet-Lt.-Col.) R. S. Hart, D.S.O., as second-in-command; Capt. J. H. Slaughter; Lieut. R. V. C. Cavendish, M.C.

During July, 1921, a Battalion Branch of the National Savings Association was formed, and in twelve months

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£2104 16s. 4d. worth of Certificates had been purchased by men of the Battalion.

On the 3rd January, 1922, the A.D.R., G.H.Q., E.E.F., inspected the Regimental Transport. The following is an extract from his report :—

" This Unit is a pattern in horsemanship and turn-out of their animals."

On 21st January Major-Gen. Hon. J. F. Gathorne Hardy, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., Commanding 10th Division and Field Troops, Egypt, inspected the Battalion. He afterwards personally congratulated the Battalion on its smart turn-out.

Deaths

Pte. F. Berbank at Polymedia Camp, Cyprus, 2.11.21, from malaria.

Pte. G. Walker, M.M., at Citadel Military Hospital, 17.2.22, from fractured spine as a result of an accident.

Pte. G. Blackburn at Alexandria, 18.3.22, from septicarmia.

Good Conduct Medals

C.S.M. J. Gibson, C.Q.M.S. A. Potts, C.Q.M.S. H. Daykin, Sergt. R. Piper, Sergt. F. Blythe.

Athletics, 1921–22

Having been fortunate enough to remain at Mustapha, the Battalion was able to use the same ground for the usual Athletic Meeting on Alma Day. The Meeting was a great success, thanks to the splendid arrangements made by Lieut. Fowler and the untiring energy of R.S.M. Hobbs during the afternoon.

Much amusement was caused by the antics of Ptes. Bell and Fowler and their mule, Pte. Bell's tent-pegging display being the outstanding feature of the afternoon.

" Tilting the Bucket " and " Climbing the Greasy Pole " caused a great deal of amusement. One competitor steered his wheelbarrow into the ladder on which the Pioneers' second-in-command was standing preparing to refill the bucket, the impact being sufficient to upset the ladder. Quite a stir was

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caused as competitors, Pioneer Corpl., wheelbarrow and ladder came to grief. Happily no one was hurt.

Undoubtedly D Company showed their superiority over the other Companies by gaining 6 firsts and 3 seconds, Headquarter Company being next with 3 firsts and 3 seconds. It is very unlikely that D Company will repeat the performance next year as most of the athletes have left the Company.

Considering the events took place on sand, which was very loose in places, the times in the track events were very good.

A very pleasant day was brought to a close by a Torchlight Tattoo which had been splendidly arranged by Lieut. Ebsworth and R.S.M. Hobbs. It was a most imposing spectacle.

The winners of the various events were as follows :—

100 *Yards Scratch :* Sergt. Wright, D Company, in $10\frac{9}{10}$ secs.

220 *Yards Scratch :* Sergt. Wright, D Company, in $25\frac{4}{5}$ secs.

440 *Yards Scratch :* Bandsman Hodges, H.Q. Company, in $59\frac{1}{5}$ secs.

880 *Yards Scratch :* Pte. Smith, D Company, in 2 min. $27\frac{2}{5}$ secs.

1 *Mile Open :* Sig. Neal, R.C.S., in 5 mins. $21\frac{1}{10}$ secs.

Long Jump : Pte. Stevenson, D Company, $19\frac{1}{2}$ feet.

Catch Weights, Tug-o'-War : D Company.

Inter-Company Relay Race : D Company.

Officers' Race, 100 *Yards :* Lt.-Col. Taylor, C.B.E. (26 yards start).

W.O.'s and Sergeants' Race, 100 *Yards :* C.Q.M.S. Howarth (20 yards start).

Band Race : Pte. Marks (Big Drum).

Boot Race : Pte. Brewster, H.Q. Company.

E.E.F. COMMAND ATHLETIC SPORTS

This was divided into groups, the first two in each group competing in the final. The Battalion easily won the Abbassia Group.

The Final Meeting was held in Cairo in April, but was disappointing as far as the Battalion was concerned, as we did not get a single point. Lieut. Nevitt was unfortunate, as he had been nursing a sprained ankle, obtained on the football

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field, for three weeks which proved to be his failing on the final day. He won his heats in the 100 yards and 440 yards.

This bad display undoubtedly deprived us of the "All-round" E.E.F. Championship, which we lost by 7½ points, having won the Football, Hockey and Cricket.

The Battalion should do well in future meetings as we have now the assistance of Capt. J. H. Slaughter.

The following represented the Battalion in the Command Meeting :—

100 *Yards :* Lieut. Nevitt, Sergt. Wright.
440 *Yards :* Lieut. Nevitt, Bandsman Hodges.
880 *Yards :* Lieut. Edwards, Pte. Smith.
1 *Mile :* Lieut. Jacques, Pte. Wardle.
3 *Miles :* Lce.-Corpl. Feighery, Pte. Nicholson.
Hurdles : Sergt. Wright.
Relay Team : Lieut. Nevitt, Sergt. Wright, Bandsman Hodges and Pte. Smith.
Long Jump : Lieut. Jacques and Sergt. Jennings.
High Jump : Sergt. Shipman and Corpl. Palmer.
120 *Yards Boys' Race :* Boys Lyons and Beard.

CROSS-COUNTRY RUNNING

The Battalion Team started training on February 1st, and were fit and ready for the Abbassia Group Race on March 1st. As no other teams entered, we obtained a walk over, and proceeded to Alexandria for the Final on March 15th, after a fortnight's Battalion manœuvres, which rather hindered training.

The race was run over a 5½-miles course round Hadra Lake, and finishing with one lap of the race-course. It resulted in an overwhelming victory for the 2nd Royal Munster Fusiliers with 130 points, their first man home winning the race in the splendid time of 32 mins. 4⅘ secs. The 4th Middlesex Regiment came second with 310 points, and after a struggle our Cairo friends, the 1st East Surrey Regiment, gained third place with 405 to our 408 points.

Our team placings were as follows : 11th Pte. Tomlin, 15th Lce.-Corpl. Feighery, 20th Pte. Birch, 25th Lieut. Dean, 30th Pte. Porter, 33rd Pte. Smith, 39th Pte. Wardle, 42nd Pte.

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Taylor, 43rd Pte. Nicholson, 48th Lieut. Wilmot, 49th Pte. Adams, 50th Pte. Whittle.

Cricket

The Cricket Season of 1921 was a most successful one for the Regimental Team, terminating in a victory over the 2nd Battalion Middlesex Regiment in the Final of the Egyptian Expeditionary Force Challenge Cup, after a most exciting match. The result was largely due to the fine cricket exhibited by Lieut. Walker, who made 158 and 49 not out, besides which he captured 10 wickets. Some of his scores during August are worthy of note: 64 not out, 85, 24 not out, 113, 37 not out, 133, 132, 44, 9, 158 and 49 not out. His batting average for the season was 58·1, scoring 1511 runs. In bowling he secured 117 wickets, having an average of 9·3, performances which were largely instrumental in the team obtaining such a satisfactory season's result.

The season's record was 25 matches played, 17 won, 2 lost, 6 drawn.

As stated in the Regimental Annual of 1921, the team differed considerably from that of 1920. Capt. J. S. Dobbie and Pte. Bowler had, unfortunately for us, left the Regiment; Lieut. Jacques was not available, as he was in England; while Lieuts. Nevitt and Coxon went home on leave and only played seldom before they left. Fresh players in Sergt. Jennings, Corpl. Sheffield, Bandsmen Baker and Marks, and Pte. Steward came in to fill the gaps most efficiently, while Pte. Skevington and Sergt. Sutton played on a number of occasions, the former recovering his form and coming out as an excellent slip field. The fielding throughout the season, except on one or two occasions, was very good, while the keenness exhibited all round was most praiseworthy. The batting averages, except for the outstanding average of Lieut. Walker, were very level. Corpl. Sheffield, who went in first on nearly every occasion, showed himself a most useful bat. On Bandsman Baker fell a lot of very heavy work; he bowled untiringly, and often came out with a good score when it was wanted. Bandsman Marks showed much promise, while Steward bowled very steadily. The averages are given below:—

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BATTING AVERAGES

	Innings.	Not out.	Highest Score.	Runs.	Average.
Lieut. N. McD. Walker	29	3	158	1511	58·1
Lieut. E. A. Coxon .	19	0	53	405	21·3
Lieut. R. O. Nevitt .	13	0	94	266	20·5
Major H. F. Watson .	19	4	71	305	20·3
Bandsman Marks .	21	7	68*	267	19·1
Corpl. Sheffield . .	29	1	80	489	17·5
Lieut. N. S. Temple .	28	2	86	432	16·6
Pte. Skevington . .	18	2	30	199	12·5
Pte. Baker . .	27	5	28	266	12·1
Sergt. Jennings . .	12	2	41	97	9·7
Lieut. R. E. H. Stott .	23	3	19	153	7·7
Pte. Steward .	15	8	23*	45	7·4

* Signifies not out.

BOWLING AVERAGES

	Overs.	Runs.	Wickets.	Average.
Lieut. N. McD. Walter	346·2	1092	117	9·3
Lieut. N. S. Temple .	50	276	24	11·5
Pte. Baker . .	290	1009	80	12·6
Pte. Marks . .	24·2	161	11	14·6
Pte. Steward . .	242	696	44	16
Lieut. E. A. Coxon .	52	252	14	19

Sergt. Jennings kept wicket very well, but unfortunately split his hand and was out of the team most of the season. Bandsman Saxby, who took his place on several occasions, showed promise.

A word of thanks is due to Lieut. N. Temple for his work as secretary, and to C.Q.M.S. Davy for so efficiently filling the onerous post of umpire to the team.

B Company won the Company Cricket Shield, defeating D Company in the Final.

In January, 1922, the Battalion moved to Cairo, and a good season's cricket was anticipated, but unfortunately when all fixtures had been made the orders came for a move to Constantinople and every fixture had to be cancelled.

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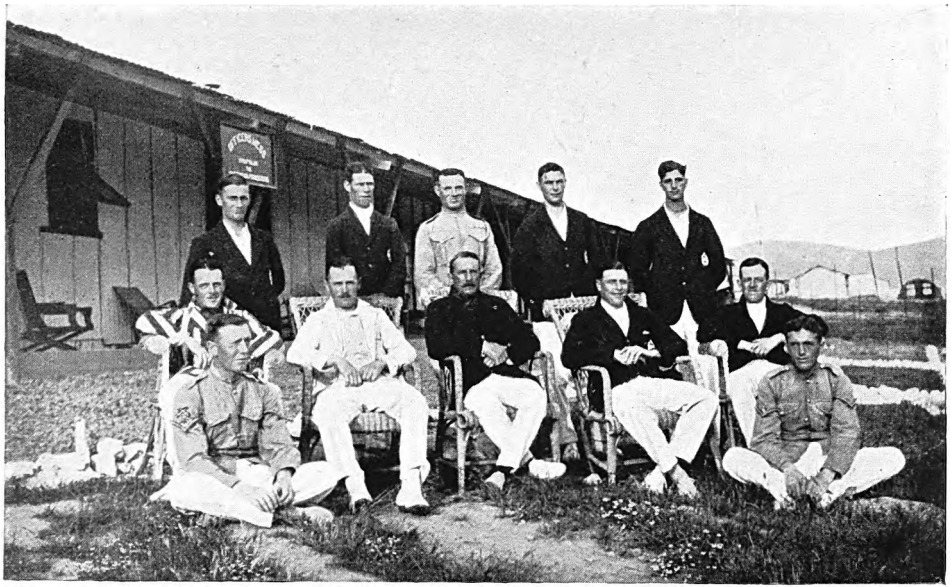

CRICKET XI. 2ND BATTALION SHERWOOD FORESTERS, 1921-22

Back Row—Sgt. J SUTTON, Sgt. W. JENNINGS, C.S.M. J. GIBSON, Bdsm. C. BAKER, Bdsm. W. MARKS
Sitting—Lieuts. E. A. COXON and N. A. McD. WALKER, Maj. H. F. WATSON, C.M.G., D.S.O., Lieuts. R. O. NEVITT and R. E. H. STOTT
Front Sitting—Lce.-Cpl. F. HOWARD Lce.-Cpl. A. SAXBY

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However, we hope when our ground at Bostandjik is completed that we shall still show some of our best form and head the Anatolian League.

The following players are still available: Major H. F. Watson, Lieuts. Walker, Jacques, Nevitt, Stott, Coxon, Sergt. Jennings, Bandsmen Baker, Marks and Sergt. Sutton, while fresh talent is beginning to come forward, among whom are Capt. Slaughter and C.S.M. Bennet, both lately arrived from England.

Football Notes

The Battalion Team commenced their football season about the 9th October, 1921, and proved most successful, quite equalling their records for the two previous seasons. As was expected, they reached the finals of the Sultan's Cup, Roberts Hughes' Charity Cup and Egyptian Expeditionary Force Cup Competitions, two of which they won. Unfortunately, owing to the Regiment's leaving Alexandria in January, they were unable to complete their list of fixtures in the Alexandria and District League, which competition they would most probably have won for the third successive time. The League Committee arranged a farewell game between the team and a picked side from the remainder of the League, the Regiment winning 3—2, and also very kindly presented each Regimental player with a gift previously chosen by himself. Our grateful thanks are due to the Committee for their kindness to us throughout our long stay in Alexandria.

For the first few weeks following our arrival in Cairo the regimental team had to be content with friendly games owing to the fact that the 2nd Middlesex Regiment, whose fixtures they had expected to take over, had managed to complete their list before leaving for Singapore. The second team, however, took over the fixtures of the Middlesex B Team, who were in a very low position in the Second Division, and managed to finish the season fourth, winning six out of the seven matches played. Meanwhile in friendly games the first team had beaten all comers.

The first competition entered for by the Regiment in Cairo was the Abbassia Knock-Out Cup, which they won after working through the following list :—

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First Round	*v.* 3rd Brigade R.H.A.	Won	5—1
Second ,,	*v.* 3rd Armoured Car Company	,,	6—2
Semi-Final	*v.* 9th Lancers (after replay)	,,	5—1
Final	*v.* 1st Royal Irish Fusiliers	,,	5—1

In the first game against the 9th Lancers the team played much below their usual form and were lucky to draw 1—1. They made no mistake, however, in the replay. The goal scorers for the Regiment in the Competition were: Sergt. Jennings 5, Pte. Lynch 8, Lieut. Walker 2, Corpl. Sheffield 2, Pte. Taylor 3, Corpl. Winkle 1, 1 being given us by our opponents putting through their own goal.

Our first fixture in the E.E.F. Cup was against the 1st Hampshire Regiment, whom we defeated at Alexandria 3—1, after being one goal down at half-time, this game being the semi-final. In the final, played in Cairo before a large attendance, we beat the 1st East Surrey Regiment, a greatly improved team, 2—1 after a good game.

The results of the next competition, the Roberts Hughes' Charity Cup, were as follows:—

First Round	*v.* 9th Lancers	Won	9—1
Second ,,	*v.* H.Q. Egypt Group, R.A.F.	,,	4—0
Third ,,	*v.* Engine Repair Depot, R.A.F.	,,	3—0
Semi-Final	*v.* 17th Brigade R.F.A.	,,	2—0
Final	*v.* 1st Hampshire Regiment	,,	8—2

The team played really well in the final and deserved every goal they got. Goals in this competition were obtained by Pte. Taylor 10, Sergt. Jennings 5, Sergt. Wright 4, Corpl. Winkle 3, Pte. Lynch 2, Corpl. Sheffield 2.

The next event of interest was a charity match between the Army and the R.A.F., the former winning 3—0. Four of the regimental players represented the Army: Lieut. Nevitt, who captained, Sergt. Jennings, Corpl. Sheffield and Pte. Lynch, while Corpl. Winkle was selected as reserve.

This was followed by the Sultan's Cup Competition, the start of which had been delayed by the political situation. In the first round we received a bye. In the second and third we defeated two Egyptian clubs, the Cairo Sporting Club (5—1) and the Union Recreation Club from Alexandria (3—0).

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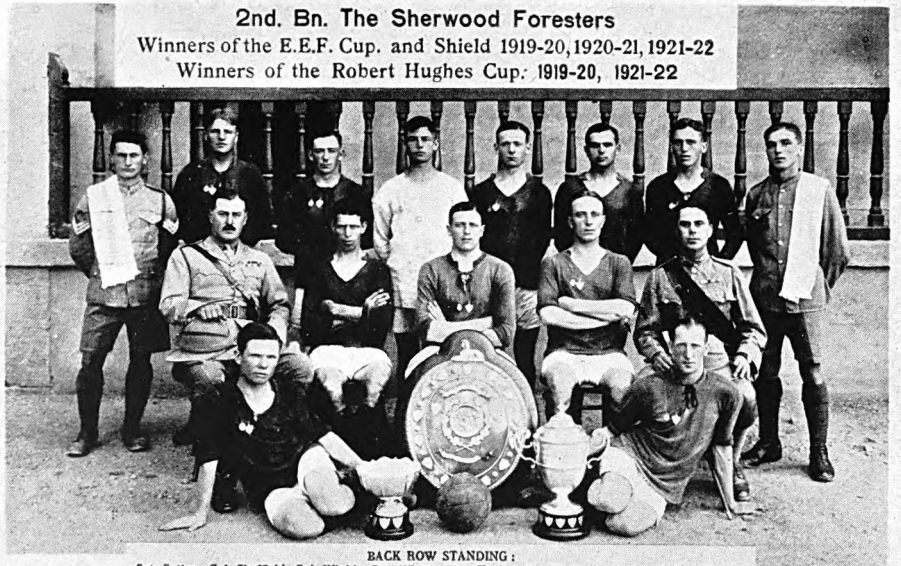
2nd. Bn. The Sherwood Foresters

Winners of the E.E.F. Cup. and Shield 1919-20, 1920-21, 1921-22

Winners of the Robert Hughes Cup. 1919-20, 1921-22



BACK ROW STANDING :

Sgt. Sutton, Cpl. Sheffield, Cpl. Winkle, Pte. Whittle, Pte. Taylor, Pte. Banner, Bds. Saxby, Pte. Hodges.

MIDDLE ROW

Lieut. Col. Popham, Sgt. Gennings, Lt. Nevitt, Sgt. Wright, R. S. M. Hobbs,

Pte. Laxon Pte. Lynch

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In the fourth, after a remarkable game, we beat the 4th Middlesex Regiment 7—4, the score at full time having been 4—4. In the extra time the team recovered their form and scored three goals in quick succession. The next round, the semi-final, brought us against the 1st East Surrey Regiment, whom we defeated decisively 6—0.

The final, against the Cairo International Sporting Club, was played in Cairo before a crowd of about two thousand. It was an excellent game and exceedingly fast. At half-time we led 1—0, a good pass from Taylor having enabled Sergt. Wright to run through and score with a fine cross shot. In the last twenty minutes, however, the C.I.S.C. pressed hard and equalised, the whistle going with the score 1—1. The extra time was too much for the regimental team, who had had four important games in five days, and we eventually lost 3—1. Considering the excellence of the opposition, a team comprising the pick of the native players in the country, the team gave a very fine display indeed.

This brings the record for the season to a close, as we left Cairo for Constantinople the following day. The following record for the three football seasons the Regiment spent in Egypt may prove of interest :—

Played 107, *Won* 96, *Lost* 5, *Drawn* 6 ; *Goals for* 548, *Goals against* 54.

The principal goal scorers were Sergt. Jennings with 107 and Pte. Lynch with 80.

The Regiment reached the final of the Sultan's Cup three times, winning it once; the final of the Roberts Hughes' Cup three times, winning it twice ; the final of the E.E.F. Cup twice, winning it twice. They also won the Alexandria and District League and Cup twice, the Alexandria and District Knock-Out Competition, and the Abbassia Knock-Out Competition.

The following is a list of regular players during the three seasons : Lieuts. Nevitt, Jacques, M.C., and Walker, Sergts. Jennings and Wright, Corpls. Sheffield and Winkle, Ptes. Lynch, Stevenson, Osborne, Walker, Lockwood, Gregory, Nix, Parkes, Laxon, Saxby, Taylor, Bowler, Skevington and Joyce.

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It only remains to thank R.S.M. Hobbs for the zealous and efficient manner in which he has carried out his duties as secretary, and to deplore the loss of so many of the players mentioned above. We shall miss in particular Lieut. Nevitt, who has captained the side throughout, Sergt. Jennings and Corpl. Sheffield. These three have been the backbone of the side for three seasons. May we soon find three more to replace them !

Polo

We did not go to Ismailia as expected, but Cairo, in which station we have much better opportunities of getting polo.

All our chargers still played, most of them having been at it with us for over two years, and were still going strong. We had in addition a few club ponies and one or two private ones.

Lt.-Col. Milward, Capt. Gamble, Capt. Platt, Capt. Ebsworth and Lieut. Cavendish were the regular players.

Lt.-Col. Milward went up for the Public Schools Cup, playing for Cheltenham, who were beaten by Harrow by one goal, who in turn were beaten by Wellington in the final.

On arrival in Cairo we entered a team—Lt.-Col. Milward, Capt. Gamble, Capt. Ebsworth and Lieut. Cavendish—for the Visitors' Cup, and were beaten by the 9th Lancers, the eventual winners in the first round. Lt.-Col. Milward in the open tournament was playing for a team called Kasr-el-Doubara, composed of Youshry Pacha, Mr. Patrick and Mr. Wellesley; they got beaten in the first round of the Lady Maxwell Cup by a strong team called " Suffolk House," composed of Col. Cavendish, 9th Lancers, Col. Van der Byl, 8th Hussars, Capt. Hornby, 8th Hussars, and Capt. Allen, Irish Fusiliers, by one goal after extra time.

We next put in a team for the Youshry Cup, Individual Handicap not to exceed two, and were beaten by the " Dragon Flies," who eventually won the tournament.

Lieuts. Platt, Ebsworth, Cavendish and Jacques, the first and only time the latter played, entered for the Subalterns' Cup and were beaten by the 8th Hussars, who eventually won.

Lt.-Col. Milward played for the Kasr-el-Doubara team in the

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2ND BATTALION POLO TEAM

Lt.-Col. MILWARD — Capt. GAMBLE — Lieut. CAVENDISH — Capt. EBSWORTH

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ASTOR, LENOX AND
TILDEN FOUNDATIONS
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open Cup, in which they were beaten 7—5 by the 31st Lancers after a very good game. The 31st were a young and very hard galloping and hitting side, and if they stick together a good deal more ought to be heard of them.

Soon after this we got orders for Constantinople and so missed the Country Life Salts Tournament, in which we expected to get a real run for our money. We took six private and club ponies to Constantinople, and on arrival we were just in time to enter for a small Tournament on the Asiatic side where we are now stationed. In this we did better, probably because the people here had just opened their season. In the first round we beat the 19th Brigade R.F.A. by 10—2; second round, 3rd Hussars by 5—3; and we unfortunately got beaten in the final by another 3rd Hussar team by 3—2.

Our handicaps on leaving Egypt were Lt.-Col. Milward 4, Capt. Gamble 2, Lieut. Cavendish 1, Capt. Ebsworth 0 and Capt. Platt 0. The latter is wonderful considering he only has his right arm, and goes hard. On arrival here we found none of our Government ponies had played before, so had a good deal to compete with. However, by careful schooling we soon hope to make polo ponies of most of them.

Hockey Notes

Fortunately the Battalion lost none of last year's hockey eleven when the four-years' men went home. The game was taken up enthusiastically by the new draft, thus enabling the Battalion to produce a moderately strong side.

The season started in Alexandria with a few trial games against strong sides of the Alexandria Sporting Club, all of which the Battalion won owing to a strong defence. In these games Lieut. Nevitt, C.Q.M.S. Howarth, C.Q.M.S. Bastowe and Pte. Baker played well. The Battalion left Alexandria in January for Cairo without losing a match.

On arrival at Cairo the games for the Battalion Shield proved exciting and caused great keenness. B Company and the right half of H.Q. Company were disposed of in the first round. In the semi-finals C Company trounced A Company, and D Company just managed to win against the left half of

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H.Q. Company. The final was a great game, but splendidly as they played, the D Company eleven proved too weak. C Company defeated them by three goals. C Company is to be congratulated on winning the shield and on their all-round keenness.

In the E.E.F. Hockey Championship the 9th Lancers met the Battalion in the first round. After a very hard game the 9th Lancers lost by the odd goal in three. In this game the Battalion defence was exceedingly good, especially the goal-keeper, Lce.-Corpl. Hollins, who brought off some very good saves.

In the second round the Battalion had another hard struggle against the 14th Pack Battery, who had not been beaten up to then. A win by the only goal of the match brought the Battalion into the semi-finals. The game against the Hampshire Regiment was easily the fastest seen in Egypt. The Battalion scored the first three goals of the game quickly. In the second half the defence proved their worth yet again. C.Q.M.S.'s Howarth and Bastowe and Sergt. White kept a very determined forward line at bay till just near the end, when the Hampshire Regiment scored two goals very rapidly.

The final was played against the 8th Hussars at Abbassia. In this game the Battalion proved too strong for the Hussars and won by three goals to one, and thus annexed the Cup for the second year in succession.

The following represented the Battalion in all the E.E.F. Championship games: Major Mathias, Lieuts. Walker, Jacques, Nevitt, Coxon, C.Q.M.S. Howarth, C.Q.M.S. Bastowe, Sergt. Crump, Sergt. White, Lce.-Corpl. Hollins, Pte. Baker.

In the final C.Q.M.S. Bastowe was left out owing to illness, his place being taken by Lieut. Stott.

Boxing Notes

During the last year the standard of boxing in the Battalion has risen considerably. Several fresh boxers of great keenness, and in some cases of good quality, have joined from the 1st Battalion and the Depot. During the time that the Battalion was in Cairo great enthusiasm was shown in the training, and it is hoped that in view of the few counter attractions of Bostandjik the progress will be even greater.

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EGYPTIAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCE INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

A team, as follows, was entered for the above, which were held in Cairo on the 16th, 17th and 19th December, 1921.

Heavy-Weight: Corpl. Palmer, entered to give Pte. Merner, R.M.F. (Champion of Egypt), a fight, was knocked out in the first round.

Welter-Weight: Pte. E. Ballinger was floored three times by Sergt. MacFarren, R.I.F., before being completely knocked out. Awarded a good loser's prize.

Light-Weight: Pte. J. Trout drew a bye in the first round, but was knocked out in the second before he had measured up his man. Pte. G. Lunt won his fight in the first round, but just lost on points in the second round after a good fight.

Feather-Weights: Bandsman A. Saxby won his fights in the first and second round, but was beaten on points in the semi-final by Lce.-Corpl. Newall, R.U.R., the eventual winner of the weight.

Bantam-Weights: Pte. T. E. Ogle put up a very good show against a man to whom he was giving a lot, both in weight and reach. Beaten on points.

Fly-Weights: Lce.-Corpl. C. A. Brown fought his way through to the semi-final, when he was beaten by the eventual winner of the weight.

Boys (Under 9st. 7lbs.): Boy W. Pearson was beaten after a good fight in the semi-final.

Boys (Under 8st. 6lbs.): Boy Beard just lost his fight after an extra round to the eventual winner. Awarded a good loser's prize.

BATTALION BOXING CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Battalion Championships took place at Abbassia Barracks, Cairo, on February 23rd, 1922. Some good and plucky fighting was seen, twenty-two entries for the various events being received. The following were the winners :—

Heavy: Corpl. Palmer, B Company.
Middle: Corpl. Sheffield, C Company.
Welter: Lce.-Corpl. Booth, B Company.

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Light : Pte. Whittle, C Company.
Feather : Bandsman Saxby, H.Q. Company.
Bantam : Lce.-Corpl. Brown, B Company.
Fly : Pte. Glover, B Company.
Boys (Under 8st. 6lbs.) : Boy Beard, H.Q. Company.

NOVICES COMPETITION

A large Novices Competition open to all units of the E.E.F. was organised by the 1st Battalion The East Surrey Regiment and held in Cairo, the semi-finals and finals taking place on the 12th and 13th April, 1922. From the Battalion three entries were sent in for the contests and twenty for the Novices Competitions. Of these, one won his contest and three their weights in the Novices Competitions.

Contest : Boy Hallas.
Novices Fly-Weight : Pte. Glover.
Novices Feather-Weight : Pte. Pemberton.
Novices Light-Weight : Dr. Timson.

ABBASSIA GROUP TEAM COMPETITION

The above took place at Abbassia Barracks on the 19th April, 1922. Although the competition was open to several Units in the garrison, apart from the Battalion, the only team to enter was that of the R.H.A. The Battalion won the event by 22½ points to 12, thereby becoming eligible to enter the finals of the E.E.F. Team Boxing, which unfortunately they could not do owing to the move to Turkey.

The following represented the Battalion : Major I. Macbean, M.C., Capt. G. M. Gamble, Capt. W. A. Platt, Lieut. E. A. Coxon, Corpl. Palmer, Pte. Singleton, Lce.-Corpl. Cresswell, Pte. Shardlow, Corpl. Chambers, Bandsman Saxby, Lce.-Corpl. Brown, Pte. Glover, Boy Hallas.

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VI

DEPOT NOTES

SINCE the 1st October, 1921, the Depot has taken in 570 recruits; of these 537 have been sent on to Battalions. The 1st Battalion has received most of them, but in November, 1921, a draft of 50 recruits went to the 1st Battalion and shortly after returned to go out to the 2nd Battalion.

The Regiment is very short of recruits. The Depot is designed to hold and train 180 recruits at a time, but from July to October as many again were being trained. To do so the 1st Battalion had to lend us additional staff, though they could not spare as many as we wanted to do the work well.

We also had two officers of a disbanded battalion of the Worcestershire Regiment sent us, Lieut. T. Moiliett and Lieut. J. H. Gurney (4th Worcestershire Regiment). To accommodate the numbers, a detachment under Capt. J. H. M. Douglas, M.C., and Lieut. J. K. L. Roberts was formed at Lichfield. This detachment was separate from, but worked in conjunction with, the North and South Staffs. Depot, who gave them every assistance.

This sums up the year's work at the Depot. In this one year nearly half the Other Ranks personnel of the whole Regiment have been replaced, and the result, good or bad of the year's work, must have had a tremendous effect on the future of the Regiment. General Maxse, judging of the result from his annual inspection, having inspected twelve other Depots, placed this Depot in Category I, and we can only hope that our Battalions will endorse his opinion.

Owing to the famous Army Orders 179, 180 and 181 of 1922 affecting Short Service N.C.O.'s and men, the following N.C.O.'s have left the Colours from here: **C.S.M. Laurence,**

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Sergt. Foster, Sergt. Matthews, Sergt. Lilley, Sergt. Richardson; and others who have left the service for various reasons during the year are: C.S.M. Ward, C.S.M. Kieran, Sergt. Wood, C.Q.M.S. Giffen, Sergt.-Drummer Hillier, Sergt. Spencer.

In football, the Depot team won the Derby Wednesday Football League Championship with a total of 44 points in 23 matches, and also the Derby Wednesday Football Cup. With the Northern Command Recruits' Cup, which we won last year, we were not so fortunate, losing against the Depot Yorks and Lancs, the score being: Yorks and Lancs 3; Foresters 0.

A little hockey was played last year. This year we have a list of 14 fixtures against outside teams.

As regards cricket, we played 24 matches and won 10. The best matches were two against the Leicestershire Regimental Depot, one won and one lost, and a match against the Derbyshire Friars.

DEPOT THE SHERWOOD FORESTERS *v.* COL. WISE'S XII.

(Played at Walton on 17.7.22)

Depot Sherwood Foresters

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
C.Q.M.S. Fox, c Earp, b W. Freeston	8	c Earp, b S. Freeston	5
Sergt. Slade, b W. Freeston	11	c Oxford, b Durant	3
Capt. Whicher, b W. Freeston	0	b W. Freeston	0
Major Hudson, c Oxford, b W. Freeston	35	b W. Freeston	2
Sergt. Bradley, c Col. Wise, b W. Freeston	7	c Thornley, b W. Freeston	1
Sergt. Kilminster, lbw b Earp	0	c S. Freeston, b Thornley	11
R.S.M. Peterkin, b Earp	6	c Oxford, b Thornley	3
Major Harvey, b W. Freeston	0	not out	25
Sergt. Nicklin, b W. Freeston	2	b Thornley	10
C.S.M. Underwood, b W. Freeston	5	b W. Freeston	6
Sergt. Styring, b Freeston	2	b W. Freeston	3
R.Q.M.S. Thompson, not out	0	b Thornley	3
Extras	2	Extras	4
Total	78	Total	73

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Col. Wise's XII.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
Oxford, b Capt. Whicher	8	c Bradley, b Slade ..	2
S. Freeston, b Capt. Whicher ..	2	b Capt. Whicher	7
Thornley, c Major Hudson, b Slade	22	b Bradley	2
J. Earp, c Bradley, b Capt. Whicher	1	c Nicklin, b Capt. Whicher	12
Col. Wise, c and b Nicklin.....	12	b Bradley	1
W. Freeston, c Major Harvey, b Bradley	1	c Thompson, b Capt. Whicher	1
F. Earp, run out	0	c Bradley, b Capt. Whicher	1
Bather, c and b Nicklin	8	b Capt. Whicher	10
Mewis, b Bradley.....	0	b Bradley	10
Ridgeway, b Slade	11	b Capt. Whicher	20
Durant, c and b Bradley	3	b Capt. Whicher ...	0
W. Earp, not out	1	not out	0
Extras	5	Extras	10
Total	74	Total	76

BOWLING

Col. Wise's

1st Innings	Overs.	Mdns.	Runs.	Wkts.	Average.
Freeston	10·3	—	37	9	4·11
F. Earp	9	—	36	2	18
2nd Innings					
Freeston	10	1	19	5	4·75
Thornley	7	1	26	4	8·33
Durant	2·5	—	7	1	7

Sherwood Foresters

1st Innings	Overs.	Mdns.	Runs.	Wkts.	Average.
Capt. Whicher	6	—	22	3	7·33
Sergt. Bradley	8	—	18	3	6
Sergt. Slade ..	1·2	—	4	2	2
Sergt. Nicklin	5	—	14	2	7
2nd Innings					
Capt. Whicher	13	—	28	7	4
Sergt. Bradley	7·3	—	4	3	1·33

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DEPOT THE SHERWOOD FORESTERS *v.* ROLLS ROYCE C.C.

(Played on County Ground, Derby, on 15.7.22.)

Depot Sherwood Foresters.		*Rolls Royce C.C.*	
Sergt. Bradley, c Mathews, b Bond	4	T. Bond, run out	8
Pte. King, b Heath	30	A. Brogden, c King, b Bradley	7
Major Hudson, c Thompson, b Bond	9	B. Sanders, b Major Hudson	13
Sergt. Lilley, lbw. b Sanders	62	S. Morton, b Everett	1
Major Harvey, c Bond, b Morton	16	H. Parker, b Major Hudson	17
Lieut. Cooper, b Wallis	0	H. Mattinson, c Nicklin, b Everett	35
Corpl. Everett, c Parker, b Morton	9	R. Thompson, b Bradley	5
Sergt. Nicklin, b Thomas	10	W. Heath, b Nicklin	4
Corpl. Seymour, b Bond	20	R. Mathews, not out	0
Pte. Pratt, b Bond	8	P. Thomas, c Pratt, b Major Hudson	5
Corpl. Wincup, not out	0	H. Wallis, run out	4
Extras	12	Extras	6
Total	180	Total	105

BOWLING

	Overs.	Mdns.	Runs.	Wkts.	Average.
Major Hudson	7	3	15	3	5
Sergt. Bradley	9	3	15	2	7·5
Sergt. Nicklin	1·2	—	4	1	4
Corpl. Everett	11	3	29	2	19·5

DEPOT THE SHERWOOD FORESTERS *v.* DEPOT LEICESTER REGT.

(Played at Normanton Barracks, 5.7.22.)

Depot Sherwood Foresters.

Sergt. Nicklin, lbw. b Clarkson	1	Major Harvey, not out	29
Sergt. Bradley, b Wykes	33	Lieut. Cooper, b Herberts	11
Sergt. Lilley, c Brock, b Porter	15	Pte. Joyce, c Clarkson, b Herberts	1
Major Hudson, c Brown, b Wykes	31	Pte. King, c Butler, b Herberts	4
Corpl. Drury, c Pacha, b Porter	4	Corpl. Parkes, b Herberts	2
Capt. Whicher, c Butler, b Cook	11	Extras	6
		Total	148

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Depot Leicestershire Regiment.

Capt. Wykes, b Drury	1	C.S.M. Cook, b Capt. Whicher	1
Sergt. Ryan, b Parkes	2	Sergt. Herberts, b Capt. Whicher	11
Capt. Porter, c Joyce, b Drury	1	Lce.-Corpl. Pacha, b Capt. Whicher	0
Major Brown, lbw. b Drury	6	Sergt. Clarkson, not out ...	2
Pte. Butler, b Drury	0	Extras	4
Lt.-Col. Brock, b Capt. Whicher	42	Total	87
Lce.-Corpl. Cosgrove, c Bradley, b Joyce	17		

BOWLING

1st Innings	Overs.	Mdns.	Runs.	Wkts.	Average.
C.S.M. Cook	5	1	18	2	9
Lce.-Corpl. Cosgrove	4·4	1	9	4	2·25
2nd Innings					
Corpl. Drury	8	2	25	4	6·25
Capt. Whicher	3·2	1	10	4	2·5

DEPOT THE SHERWOOD FORESTERS *v.* LONGDONS

(Played at Normanton Barracks, 24.6.22.)

Longdon's C.C.		*Depot The Sherwood Foresters.*	
J. Statham (jun.), b Bradley	2	Corpl. Everett, b Boardman	4
E. Stevenson, run out	7	Pte. Allen, c Martin, b Crossley	22
W. Martin, c Lilley, b Bradley	0	Sergt. Bradley, c Statham, b Martin	22
A. Cooper, b Drury	0	Sergt. Lilley, not out	26
J. Statham (sen.), b Drury .	25	Corpl. Drury, c Ward, b Martin	22
W. Boardman, c King, b Drury	35	Major Hudson, Lce.-Corpl. Fagan, Pte. King, Pte. Wilson, Sergt. Yorke, Pte. Morris	did not bat
J. Boardman, b Drury	0		
W. Ward, not out	19		
R. Crossley, b Drury	12		
G. Hillesley, W. Osbourne	did not bat —		
Extras	5	Extras	15
Total 8 wkts.	105	Total 4 wkts.	111
Innings declared closed.			

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BOWLING

	Overs.	Mdns.	Runs.	Wkts.	Average.
Drury	12·5	3	39	5	7·8
Bradley	7	1	21	2	10·5
Everett	3	—	15	—	—
Lilley.....	8	1	24	—	—

DEPOT SHERWOOD FORESTERS *v.* DERBYSHIRE FRIARS.

(Played on County Ground, Derby, on 22.6.22.)

Derbyshire Friars.		*Depot Sherwood Foresters.*	
G. M. Buckston, b Drury ..	27	F. Forman, c McVittie, b Raynor	48
R. H. R. Ellison, c Capt. Whicher, b Drury	13	Sergt. Nicklin, c Ellison, b McVittie	7
Rev. D. Raynor, c Capt. Whicher, b Drury	5	Major Hudson, c Gen. Walthall, b McVittie ...	6
C. R. C. Moon, b Drury ...	3	Sergt. Bradley, b McVittie.	1
Gen. Walthall, b Drury ...	0	C. E. Jones, c & b Raynor .	8
H. W. Sale, b Forman	12	Sergt. Lilley, c & b McVittie	22
T. H. Peach, c Forman, b Drury	5	Capt. Whicher, run out ...	13
Rev. W. N. Kemp, b Drury	5	Lieut. Cooper, b Ellison ...	13
R. V. McVittie, c Sergt. Bradley, b Forman	31	Pte. King, b Ellison	0
H. Greatorex, not out	1	Corpl. Parkes, not out	3
G. Barrington, b Drury....	0	Corpl. Drury, did not bat..	—
Extras	7	Extras	4
Total	109	Total for 9 wkts...	125

BOWLING

1st Innings	Overs.	Mdns.	Runs.	Wkts.	Average.
Corpl. Drury.	17	3	55	8	6·8
Forman	17	2	47	2	23·5
2nd Innings					
Ellison.....	10	1	37	2	18·5
McVittie	12	1	52	4	13
Raynor	3	—	17	2	8·5

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OFFICERS *v.* WARRANT OFFICERS AND SERGEANTS

(Played on 19.7.22.)

W.O.'s and Sergts

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
C.Q.M.S. Fox, b Major Collin ...	1	b Capt. Whicher	0
Sergt. Lilley, c Lieut. Roberts, b Major Collin	1	lbw. b Capt. Whicher	9
C.S.M. Underwood, b Major Grove	15	b Major Hudson	0
Sergt. Bradley, lbw. b McGowran	29	not out	36
Sergt. Slade, b McGowran	12	b Major Hudson	0
Sergt. Nicklin, b McGowran	7	c Capt. Whicher, b Hudson	0
R.S.M. Peterkin, c Lieut. Cooper, b McGowran	0	b Major Hudson	3
Sergt. Kilminster, b Major Grove	2	run out	1
C.S.M. King, not out	3	b Capt. Whicher	0
R.Q.M.S. Thompson, c Major Collin, b McGowran	1	c & b Capt. Whicher .	3
Sergt. Yorke, b Major Hudson ..	3	b Capt. Whicher	0
Extras	6	Extras	3
Total	80	Total	55

Officers

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
Major Grove, b Sergt. Lilley	28	lbw. b Lilley	9
Capt. Whicher, c Bradley, b Slade	16	b Slade	4
Gen. Hoskins, b Slade	35	b Bradley	9
Major Harvey, b Lilley	7	c Nicklin, b R.S.M. Peterkin	7
Major Hudson, c Fox, b Bradley	0	not out	36
Major Collin, b Bradley	0	b Bradley	0
Col. Graham, b Slade	0	c King, b Bradley ...	0
Lieut. Cooper, c Lilley, b Peterkin	2	c & b Slade.....	4
Lieut. Roberts, c Yorke, b Slade	1	c Lilley, b Bradley ..	0
C.S.M. McGowran, b R.S.M. Peterkin	0	c Kilminster, b Slade	6
Sergt. Styring, not out	1	b Slade	1
Extras	3	Extras	2
Total	93	Total	78

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BOWLING

W.O.'s and Sergts

1st Innings	Overs.	Mdns.	Runs.	Wkts.	Average.
Major Collin ..	5	—	21	2	10·5
C.S.M. McGowran	7	—	21	5	4·20
Major Grove ..	7	1	15	2	7·5
Major Hudson .	1·3	—	2	1	2
2nd Innings.	Overs.	Mdns.	Runs.	Wkts.	Average.
Capt. Whicher .	9·3	1	23	5	4·6
Major Hudson .	6	1	19	4	4·75

Officers

1st Innings.	Overs.	Mdns.	Runs.	Wkts.	Average.
Sergt. Bradley .	8	1	32	2	16
Sergt. Slade ..	6	2	16	4	4
Sergt. Lilley ..	7	1	21	2	10·5
R.S.M. Peterkin	1	—	1	2	·5
2nd Innings.	Overs.	Mdns.	Runs.	Wkts.	Average
Sergt. Slade ..	5·5	1	14	4	3·5
Sergt. Bradley .	8	4	16	4	4

A few notes on the Colours of the Service Battalions of the Regiment will most probably be of great interest to all readers of the Annual.

Army Council Instruction No. 444 of 1919 authorised the issue of one Union Colour per Service Battalion that served Overseas.

In 1920 these Colours began to be issued, and since that date they have been disposed of as follows. In all cases a Military Ceremony has taken place:—

9th Service Battalion. King's Colour handed over to the care of the Vicar and Churchwardens of St. Peter's Church, Mansfield, at a Public Parade arranged by His Worship the Mayor of Mansfield.

10th Service Battalion. King's Colour handed over to the custody of the Mayor and Burgesses of the City of Nottingham and placed in Nottingham Castle.

11th Service Battalion. King's Colour handed over to the care of the Vicar and Churchwardens of the Parish Church, Chesterfield.

12th Service Battalion (Pioneers). King's Colour handed

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over to the custody of the Mayor and Burgesses of the City of Nottingham and placed in Nottingham Castle.

15th Service Battalion (Bantams), 1st Garrison Battalion, 51st Battalion, 52nd Battalion and 53rd Battalion (Young Soldiers). Handed over to the care and custody of the Vicar and Churchwardens of St. Giles Parish Church, Old Normanton, Derby, on Sunday, 29th October, 1922. (Full report of ceremony *vide* report in copy of *Derby Daily Express* of October 30th below.)

16th Service Battalion (Chatsworth Rifles). Handed over to the care and custody of the Vicar and Churchwardens of the Parish Church, Edensor, by Lt.-Col. C. C. Herbert-Stepney, D.S.O., who commanded the Battalion.

17th Service Battalion (Welbeck Rangers). Handed over to the custody of the Mayor and Burgesses of the City of Nottingham and placed in Nottingham Castle by Capt. T. Thornton, who was Adjutant of the Battalion.

Sherwood Foresters' Colours Deposited in Old Normanton Church

WAR RECORD

When the "Retreat" was sounded at Old Normanton Church on Sunday afternoon, October 22nd, the last act associated with an epic experience was performed. A Colour party stood at the "Present," and a congregation of military and civilians, who filled every available space in the church, joined in a final salute to the Colours of five battalions of the Sherwood Foresters Regiment. The bugle call also met with a response from many who had waited patiently, unable to obtain admission to the church.

Out of the solemnity of the service emerged a note different from that associated with most other recent services of a military character. The dedication of our numerous war memorials has reminded us of the sacrifice, of the cost, of the great effort put forth by this country in the wonderful years 1914–18. The nearness of the event has not allowed us to get a true perspective. The handing over of the Colours of battalions which were created during that period, and have since, according to the Army List, disappeared, directed one's

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thoughts into another channel. What of the supreme achievement? What of the honour? What of the character of those who marched behind the Colours and who lived up to the traditions of which these standards are emblematic? To the present and future generations they will be a material witness of a grand and noble endeavour.

SERVICE OVERSEAS

Thousands of men who are scattered far and wide had an interest in Sunday's proceeding. The Battalions handing over their Colours were the 15th, 1st Garrison, 51st, 52nd and 53rd. All created in 1915 or later, they inherited the spirit of the Sherwood Foresters and gallantly kept it alive in many distant lands. The 15th Battalion joined the B.E.F. in May, 1916, and took part in the Somme fighting less than two months later. At the end of the year the Battalion took over the line at Chaulnes Station and was in the advance to the south of St. Quentin. Passchendael, Houthulst Forest and Kemmel were other notable engagements. The 1st Garrison Battalion embarked in October, 1915, for the M.E.F., and figured at Suvla Bay, Cape Helles, Gallipoli, Mex, Port Said, Ismailia, Port Suez and Cairo. The other three Battalions were composed of young soldiers and formed part of the Army of the Rhine, subsequently serving in Ireland. The Battalions are disbanded, but their spirit remains, and the Colours, safely guarded in the parish church of Old Normanton, will tell of the comradeship, loyalty and devotion of those whose privilege it was to serve with them.

A great assembly of former members of the Battalions, friends and relatives witnessed the arrival of the Colours from the Depot, accompanied by the band and troops. Major C. D. Harvey, D.S.O., was in charge of the Colour Party, and the following officers carried Colours: Capt. G. Callow, D.S.O., M.C., 15th Battalion; Capt. J. H. M. Douglas, M.C., 1st Garrison; Lieut. A. Mackintosh, 51st Battalion; Capt. J. D. Whicher, 52nd Battalion; Lieut. M. H. Cooper, 53rd Battalion. At the church gate the band played "Auld Lang Syne," the Colour Party was met and escorted to the church by the Bishop of Derby, the vicar, the Rev. R. Price, M.A., the Rev. J. Roberts, M.A., and the churchwardens, Mr. Giles Austin,

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J.P., and Dr. Patey. Among the congregation were Brig.-Gen. Roy, C.M.G., Major Hudson, V.C., D.S.O., M.C., and representatives of the Imperial Veterans' Association, the Grenadier Guards' Association and the British Legion.

Each of the Colours was handed over separately, and the vicar and churchwardens were charged by the Bishop to see that they be faithfully guarded. Turning to the military, the Bishop said the officers of the church would do the duty they had been honoured to perform, and the people of the parish would be proud of the trust committed to them.

Subsequently the Colours were handed to the officers, who placed them where they are to rest.

The Bishop said the object of the service was its own text and sermon. There was always something very stirring for civilians in anything connected with the service of the King and country. It was not only a question of uniform, music and colour; it was more than that, something very much deeper than the physical. There was always the sense of the possible sacrifice, the real sacrifice given for them. But that thought was not uppermost in their minds that day. What was it that stirred them? It was probably the sense of order, smartness, precision, immediate obedience to the word of command and readiness. In addition there was the spirit of the Corps, the name of the Regiment, its history, and honours in battle, its unity in all the many battalions, the one life which ran through the whole and yet was merely a part in the large whole of the Division and the Army. This unseen intangible spirit, which was so real, so strong and compelling, was like the life of a great river which had never in history been composed of the same atoms for two seconds together, and yet was one as it flowed through its course.

SENSE OF SACRIFICE

The sense of sacrifice could not be wholly absent from their minds, for not long since a lasting memorial was made there, but the other side was now uppermost; all that which was expressed of the spirit gathered and concentrated in the Colours which these Battalions came to leave in God's house for safe keeping. It was well that they should be left in the parish where the Regiment had its centre, and the church and

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parish were proud of the great honour done to them. Silently the Colours would speak many things to those who came after them, to the children, youth and age, of what this generation had done in the Regiment of Sherwood Foresters by these and other battalions.

After recalling the services of the battalions the Bishop said in honouring them and their Colours they must not forget as Christians that they were enlisted in a war from which there was no discharge, having a call to service, a daily duty to fulfil, a King to serve and a flag to honour and keep unsullied and safe from the enemy.

It was not without its fitness that the prayer of the Church all the world over was in full harmony with the ideal of every Regiment in the Army. Could they pray a better prayer than that they being ready both in body and soul, might cheerfully accomplish those things that He would have them do ?

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VII

5TH BATTALION NOTES

THE Battalion commenced the year with a round of Company Dinners, and if the sword, or "axe," was already suspended above for subsequent operation, the fact did not obtrude itself at those very enjoyable (and in many ways useful) gatherings.

The first item in importance in training was an Officers' Week-end Course at Divisional Headquarters, a portion of the time being spent at the Regimental Depot. At this course definite instructions were given by the Divisional Commander as to the forms and methods of training to be adapted during the year, and an interesting demonstration in methods was given by the Depot staff. A useful feature of the course was a discussion between all Officers present of their own special problems, which the training programme laid down involved.

The Companies commenced work with Close Order Drill, Vickers and Lewis Gun Instruction and Lectures, which was continued until the weather permitted field training to be carried out in the open. A two days' tactical scheme for the Officers of the Battalion was carried out, the subject being a Tactical Advanced Guard. The scheme, which was organized by the Adjutant (Major Grove), enabled each phase and situation to be dealt with separately, and the whole proved an efficient and interesting exercise.

Lewis Gun Courses and Musketry now claimed considerable attention throughout the Battalion, and those, together with training in tactical formations and manœuvre, occupied all the time remaining before camp.

During the year there has been a steady stream of recruits, and the Battalion marched into Camp at Welbeck Abbey under the command of Lt.-Col. T. C. Newbold, D.S.O., T.D.,

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with a strength of 19 Officers, 546 Other Ranks, the latter number being within 92 of the New Peace Establishment.

Welbeck Abbey (which fittingly enough is near the Sherwood Forest) had been the scene of a previous Camp, of which the Battalion had some happy memories, and on the present occasion they found the Camp finely situated, and themselves under excellent canvas, which latter condition proved fortunate.

The first week in Camp was largely devoted to the practice of tactical and manœuvre formations, the Unit being the section.

The modern infantryman is trained through the eye wherever possible, and in accordance with the sound principle, a " Cadre " platoon was formed in the Battalion for the purpose of demonstrating to the remainder various new features in field operations.

The afternoons were occupied with games, some very keen Inter-Company football matches being played.

The second week in Camp commenced with a very heavy rainfall (there being 4½" of rain in 24 hours), and the immediate task was that of draining the Camp and drying the personnel, both objects being successfully attained. When the weather cleared the Brigade Commander (Col. Goodman, C.M.G., D.S.O.) inspected the Battalion, the turn-out of which was very creditable to all ranks.

Training proceeded with the practice of schemes of attack (Platoon and Company), and it was during this period that the G.O.C. Northern Command (Lieut.-Gen. Sir Ivor Maxse, K.C.B., C.V.O., D.S.O.) visited the 5th Battalion, inspected them in column of route, and afterwards watching the individual companies at work. The Field Training was completed by a two battalion attack scheme, the 5th Battalion co-operating with the 7th Battalion for this purpose.

Finally the Battalion, with all other Units of the Brigade, took part in a Ceremonial Parade, being previously inspected by the Brigade Commander.

The Brigade formed up in front of Welbeck Abbey, and, preceding the March Past, several decorations were presented by Major-Gen. Sir A. R. Hoskins, K.C.M.G., C.M.G., D.S.O., Commanding the 46th Division, Major B. H. Beaumont-

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Checkland, M.C., of the 5th Battalion receiving the Territorial Decoration.

With regard to sports in Camp, the 5th Battalion more than held their own. Owing to the inclement weather the Battalion Sports were not held, but at the Brigade Sports they were successful in wresting from the 6th Battalion the Brigadier's Cup, which was done by the fine performance of Drummer Swales in winning the cross-country and half-mile races, and the fine pulling of B Company's tug-of-war team. The Cup was afterwards presented to Lieut. J. W. Salsbury (Battalion Sports Officer) by the Brigadier.

A ceremony in which the Battalion was keenly interested was the unveiling of the War Memorial to the 46th Division at Bellenglise on 4th October last by Maj.-Gen. G. F. Boyd, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., D.C.M. They were represented on this occasion by Major J. D. Kerr, M.C., and a detachment of N.C. Officers.

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VIII

6TH BATTALION NOTES

SINCE the reconstruction of the Battalion early in 1920 it has not been possible to carry out a full year's training until this year, although it has been possible to hold the Annual Training Camps in each year. It was early in 1920 that instructions were given to our Commanding Officer, Lt.-Col. E. Hall, D.S.O., T.D., to form a Battalion with its headquarters at Chesterfield, and recruiting at once commenced. It is a great satisfaction that the Battalion is now almost up to Peace Establishment. Owing to the term of service now being fixed at four years, there will not be so many discharges as heretofore, when men were allowed to enlist for one year, and more interest will be taken all round in their duties.

This year through the kindness of His Grace The Duke of Portland, who placed his spacious estate at Welbeck at the disposal of the Sherwood Foresters' Brigade, we were able to carry out the Annual Training to its full extent. The first week, Companies were at the disposal of Company Commanders for Platoon and Company Training. A Cadre Platoon under C.S.M. King was sent from the Depot Sherwood Foresters for demonstration purposes, and assisted the training considerably. The second week's training consisted of Company and Battalion at Battle Practice. Although the weather during this period was very wet, the training was carried out to the satisfaction of the General Officer Commanding.

On the last day in Camp a Ceremonial Parade was held, at the conclusion of which medals and decorations were presented. Medals were presented to C.S.M. Holmes, Bandmaster Macfarlane and Lce.-Corpl. Hopkinson.

A number of the past Officers of the Battalion attended,

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amongst whom were Col. Brooke Taylor, Brig.-Gen. Jackson, Surgeon-Major Shea, Major V. O. Robinson, Capts. Edmunds and Broomhead and several others.

The W.O.'s and Sergeants held their usual Smoking Concert in Camp, which proved a great success. All the Officers of the Battalion attended, in addition to a good number of past members. A Concert Party was engaged, and was assisted by C.Q.M.S. Atherton, Sergts. Grant and Ashton. We must congratulate the Committee on the manner in which the concert was arranged.

The usual Sports, Battalion and Brigade, were held at Camp, but I am sorry to say we had to hand over the Brigade Cup to the 5th Battalion this year, who proved the winners by a very small margin of points. We hope, however, to regain it at the Annual Camp, 1923.

As the Battalion is scattered over such a vast area, each Company has to look to its own laurels during the remaining portion of the year.

The Headquarters at Chesterfield with A Company and an outstation at Clay Cross and the Headquarters Wing are much the strongest. Permanent Staff Instructor, C.S.M. J. E. Stradling; C.S.M. Holmes, Company Sergt.-Major; C.Q.M.S. C. Green, Company Quartermaster-Sergeant.

C.S.M. Holmes takes a great interest in all the doings of the Battalion, in addition to his own Company, he being the father of the Other Ranks serving with the Battalion. This Warrant Officer organises games, dances, etc., to enliven the members at Chesterfield during the winter period, and carries out these duties very successfully. He is ably assisted by the other elder members of his Company.

There is a Territorial Club at Chesterfield both for the 6th Battalion and the Company of the Royal Corps of Signals. They combine in promoting dances, whist drives, etc.

A N.C.O.'s Club is also in existence, of which C.S.M. Holmes is President. This grand old soldier promotes all sorts of enjoyment in the Club on the social side.

B Company Headquarters at Chapel-en-le-Frith, with outstations at Buxton, New Mills and Whaley Bridge. Permanent Staff Instructor, Sergt. W. Topliff; Company Sergeant-Major, C.S.M. J. Mycock; Company Quartermaster-

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Sergeant, T. Jackson, M.M. This is a very scattered company, as it is recruited from all the small villages round the Peak, with the exception of the Buxton Platoon. This Company although scattered always holds its own at brigade and battalion sports and other items.

On the 23rd July, 1922, the Company concentrated at its Headquarters for Church Parade. After inspection by the Brigade Commander, the Company dragged the German Field Gun presented to the Company into position at the War Memorial Park, Chapel-en-le-Frith, where in years to come it may serve as a reminder to the grandchildren of some of those who were present at the capturing of so many similar guns at Bellenglise.

C Company. This is also a very scattered Company (the extremes being 20 miles apart). Headquarters Bakewell, with outstations at Matlock, Ashbourne and Wirksworth. Permanent Staff Instructors, C.Q.M.S. C. Armstrong for Ashbourne and Wirksworth, Sergt. C. R. Fuller for Bakewell and Matlock; Company Sergeant-Major, C.S.M. Barker; Company Quartermaster-Sergeant, C.Q.M.S. Porter.

Each Platoon is practically an independent unit in this Company owing to the distance which separates them from each other, in spite of which they are very efficient and keep their strength up to establishment. Ashbourne held their Annual Dinner on the 23rd November, 1921. It was a most successful function; eighty-five persons sat down to dinner. The prizes won by the members of the Platoon were distributed at the dinner. The Platoon Annual Soirée took place on 15th February, 1922. This, too, was a marked success. The decorations of the supper table in regimental colours being particularly attractive.

D Company. Headquarters Staneley, with outstations at Bolsover, Eckington and Brimington. Permanent Staff Instructor, C.S.M. G. Neynoe; Company Sergeant-Major, C.S.M. F. Greatorex; Company Quartermaster-Sergeant, vacant. This Company is not at present very strong, but recruiting is now going on apace, and it is hoped that by the beginning of next training season strength as per peace establishment will be attained.

To promote the welfare of the members of the Territorial

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O.C., ADJUTANT AND DRUMS, 1921. 6TH SHERWOOD FORESTERS

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Army and keep them together throughout the year the County Association are providing Recreation Rooms at several stations as far as possible, each room to be supplied with a billiard table.

Sports and Pastimes

The Prize Shoot of the Headquarter Wing and H Company is held annually at Totley Rifle Range, where many valuable prizes are competed for. Arrangements are made by the O.C. A Company, amiably assisted by C.S.M. Holmes. The prizes are :—

" White Memorial Shield," value £70, given by the family of the late Lieut. C. J. White. " The *Derbyshire Times* Challenge Cup." " The McI. Lomer Cup." " 200 Yards Cup." " 500 Yards Cup." " Robinson Memorial Cup for Machine Gunners," given by Major W. B. Robinson in memory of his son, killed in the Great War. " The Recruits' Cup."

In addition to the above, valuable prizes are given by tradesmen of the district.

The Annual Territorial Ball is arranged by the Chesterfield Company ; this year it was held on Shrove Tuesday, 28th February, and proved successful. C.S.M. Holmes and Committee must be congratulated on the manner in which it was carried out. The band of the 6th Battalion Sherwood Foresters was in attendance under the direction of Bandmaster J. MacFarlane.

B Company has a good number of valuable trophies to be competed for annually :—

" Inter-Platoon Cup," given by members of B Company of the Volunteers. " Inter-Company Shield." " Turner Cup." " Mabbott Cup." " Section Shield." " Challenge Cup." " Langford Cup."

The trophies are at present held by :—

" Platoon Cup "—Most efficient Platoon : No. 5 Platoon, Chapel-en-le-Frith.

" Turner Cup "—Most efficient Section : No. 5 Section, Buxton.

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" Mabbott Cup "—Most efficient L.G. Section: No. 4 Section, Peak Dale.

" Section Shield "—Most efficient Section: No. 5 Section, Buxton.

" Challenge Cup "—Best individual shot: C.Q.M.S. T. Jackson, M.M.

" Langford Cup "—Smartest recruit: Pte. J. E. Nichols, Chapel-en-le-Frith.

" Inter-Company Shield "—The Buxton detachment are holders of this trophy, it not being competed for in 1921.

In C Company the Annual Prize Shoot took place on 21st and 22nd October, 1921, at Bakewell and Pte. W. Fearn took the first prize. The prizes were distributed at the Annual Smoking Concert held on 2nd November, 1921.

The Annual Ball of this Company was held at Bakewell on 23rd February, 1922, and was considered the best held at Bakewell during the season.

Two shooting matches took place between the Bakewell Platoon and a team of ex-Volunteers and ex-Territorials. Each won one match.

The chief event at Wirksworth is a War Game with Miniature Artillery (Mechanical). One battle—now famous—extended over three days.

The Matlock Platoon is very quiet owing to lack of interest taken by the inhabitants in the Territorial Army. The Platoon suffers accordingly.

Ashbourne. The Annual Prize Shoot was held on Thorpe Cload Range on 9th October, 1921. A strong Platoon turned up to compete. The winners were :—

" Licensed Victuallers' Challenge Cup "—Pte. E. R. Grant.

" Capt. J. R. Mellor's Gold Medal "—Pte. E. R. Grant.

" The Turnbull Challenge Cup "—Pte. R. C. Purdy.

" The Jelf (Recruits') Cup "—Pte. H. Bell.

" Capt. E. Lee's Silver Medal "—Pte. H. Bell.

" The Hon. Mrs. Okeover's Silver Bugle "—Pte. J. Fogg.

The above were kindly distributed to the winners by Col. W. W. Jelf, C.M.G., D.S.O., at the Annual Dinner.

A Boxing Tournament was held at Ashbourne on 14th July, 1922.

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The programme was composed of :—

Five 2-minute rounds—

Catch-Weights : Pte. C. E. Harrington *v.* Pte. F. A. Bull. Harrington won.

Catch-Weights : Pte. A. E. A. Botham *v.* Pte. S. Higgins. Higgins won.

Bantam-Weight : Pte. T. H. Chell *v.* Pte. F. Atkins. Atkins won.

Fly-Weight : Sergt. Johnson *v.* Pte. L. Webster. Webster won.

A special exhibition of six 2-minute rounds—

Battling Redvers, 6th S.F. (winner of Northern Command Light-Weight Championship, 1912) *v.* C.S.M. I. McGowran, Army P.T. Staff (winner of Army Light-Weight Championship, 1922). No decision given.

Referee : Rev. Wm. O'Kane. Judges : Capt. W. Seaton, M.C., D.C.M., and Rev. G. C. R. Cooke. Timekeeper : O. G. Felstead, Esq. M.C. : Lieut. L. Parkinson.

Lce.-Corpl. E. R. Grant (Ashbourne Platoon) won the Shield for the best General Turn-Out in Letter C Company for 1922.

A most enjoyable Cricket Match took place at the Cricket Ground, Welbeck Abbey, during the period the Battalion was at Camp—5th and 6th Battalions *v.* 7th and 8th Battalions. The 7th and 8th Battalions, who batted first, scored 183 for 5 wickets. The scores of the 5th and 6th Battalions were as follows :—

	Runs.
Major H. C. Brooke Taylor, c Renwick, b Barlow ..	19
Capt. H. H. Jackson, lbw b Ashwell	7
Capt. J. R. W. Grove, b Ashwell	0
Major C. E. Hudson, b Barlow	0
Capt. R. O. Nevitt, c Jackson, b Spencer	85
Lieut. A. J. Cook, c Hales, b Barlow	3
Lieut. V. H. Armitage, run out	8
Capt. L. H. Finch, not out	10
Lieut. Coleman, not out	15
2nd Lieut. R. P. Sleigh, Lieut. J. W. Salsbury, Capt. E. M. Brooke Taylor } did not bat	—
Extras	4
Total 7 wickets	151

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Musketry—

The Battalion has not yet finished their Annual Course of Musketry, but up to the present, those that have fired have done very creditably and a great improvement on previous years. All ranks are very keen on this subject.

Courses of Instruction—

A good number from the Battalion attended Courses of Instruction in Machine Gun, Cookery, Platoon and Section Commanders, and all obtained a satisfactory decision.

On the 5th August, 1922, a memorial flag day was held for the purpose of obtaining funds for "The Sherwood Foresters War Memorial," to be erected at Crich Cliff. The band and drums of the battalion paraded the town of Chesterfield with a fair amount of success. I understand that £3500 has been collected in the Sherwood Foresters area up to the time of writing.

Officers serving with the Battalion are :—

Commanding Officer : Lt.-Col. E. Hall, D.S.O., T.D.
Second-in-command : Major H. C. Brooke-Taylor, Major The Marquis of Hartington.
O.C. A Company : Capt. H. H. Jackson, M.C.
O.C. B Company : Capt. C. V. H. C. Blackwall.
O.C. C Company : Capt. E. M. Brooke-Taylor, M.C.
O.C. D Company : Capt. F. M. Dick, M.C.
O.C. Headquarters' Wing : Capt. I. Davies.
Supernumerary : Capt. J. D. B. Symonds.
O.C. Machine Gun Platoon : Lieut. G. F. Gardner.
Transport Officer : Lieut. B. E. Johnson.
Platoon Officers, A Company : Lieut. C. H. M. Owen, M.C. ; Lieut. A. J. Cook ; Lieut. J. Clark, D.S.O., M.C.
Platoon Officers, C Company : Lieut. V. H. Armitage, M.C. ; Lieut. G. Glossop ; Lieut. L. Parkinson.
Platoon Officers, D Company : Lieut. F. K. West.
Quartermaster : Capt. W. Seaton, M.C., D.C.M. (Acting).
Adjutant—Permanent Staff : Capt. R. O. Nevitt.
Arrivals : Major The Marquis of Hartington, Capt. R. O. Nevitt, from 2nd Battalion Sherwood Foresters.

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OFFICERS 6TH SHERWOOD FORESTERS. WELBECK CAMP, 1922

Back Row—Lieut. C. H. M. OWEN, M.C., Capt. I. DAVIES, Lieut. L. PARKINSON, Capt. W. SEATON, M.C., D.C.M., Lieut. B. E. JOHNSON, Capt. J. D. B. SYMONDS, Lieut. V. H. ARMITAGE, M.C.

Sitting—Capt. H. H. JACKSON, M.C., Capt. F. M. DICK, M.C., Maj. H. C. BROOKE-TAYLOR, Lieut.-Col. E. HALL, D.S.O., T.D., Capt. R. O. NEVITT, Capt. E. M. BROOKE-TAYLOR, M.C., Capt. C. V. H. C. BLACKWALL

Front Row—Lieut. G. F. GARDNER, Lieut. A. J. COOK

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Departures: Major V. O. Robinson, M.C.; Capts. L. Percival, M.C.; W. N. Broomhead, T.D.; Lieut. G. Rivington; J. W. Potter, D.S.O.; and H. Higham. All to Reserve of Officers.

A./R.S.M. J. G. Hancock and C.S.M. H. Thorpe discharged to Pension.

Clr.-Sergt. C. Watson rejoined the 1st Battalion on reduction of the establishment of Permanent Staff Instructors.

Deaths: Pte. P. Kelly, D.C.M., Letter A Company.

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IX

7TH BATTALION NOTES

THE first event of importance after the Skegness camp last year was the unveiling of the Robin Hood War Memorial in St. Mary's Church on October 16th, 1921. A parade was formed in the Nottingham Great Market-place, where a short service was held with the idea of giving the hundreds of people who were unable to find accommodation in the church a chance of taking part in the ceremony. There were present the serving Battalion and a large company formed of ex-members, officers, non-commissioned officers and men who served with the Robin Hoods during and before the War.

An interesting link with the past was the presence on parade of the Colours presented in the early sixties to the 1st Notts Rifle Volunteers, the original Robin Hood Rifles. These Colours now hang on either side of the Memorial in St. Mary's Church, and carry the battle honour of South Africa, 1900–02, commemorating the first time the Volunteer Battalion had the honour of serving in war with our parent Battalion of the Sherwood Foresters. The parade marched to St. Mary's Church, the Colours being escorted by a party of old Robin Hoods in the Lincoln green. The Memorial was unveiled by Major-Gen. The Honourable E. J. Montagu-Stuart-Wortley, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., who commanded the 46th Division during its early service in France. The sermon was preached by the former Chaplain of the Robin Hoods, the Rev. H. T. Hayman, M.A., T.D.

The Memorial itself comprises a bronze tablet about 9 feet long, representing a party of the Robin Hoods returning from the trenches, with underneath a bronze safe containing, on vellum, the names of those who fell in the War. This was illustrated in last year's Regimental Annual.

In February, 1922, after forty-four years' continuous service,

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the period of command granted to Lt.-Col. A. W. Brewill, D.S.O., V.D., T.D., expired, to the very deep regret of all ranks. Col. Brewill went overseas as second-in-command of the Battalion in February, 1915, when well over the age limit, taking over command in August, he led the Robin Hoods with great distinction during the anxious and strenuous days of 1915 and 1916, until invalided out as no longer medically fit. His untiring energy and great personal interest in the Volunteer Force and later in the Territorial Battalion has meant much to the Regiment, which he reformed after the War, and he was chiefly instrumental in getting together the funds for our Memorial, and also edited and published the Robin Hood War History.

Lt.-Col. W. R. Rook, O.B.E., T.D., was appointed to command, Major Herbert Bradwell, T.D., second-in-command, and Capt. D. H. Richardson, M.C., took over command of C Company from Capt. L. C. Cooper, T.D., an old Robin Hood, who retired under the new establishment.

Recruiting for the Battalion was somewhat retarded in the early winter owing to a new establishment for the Territorial Army, and as now it has been found necessary, in view of the very great unemployment existing in the town, to select very carefully the men for the Battalion, numbers are not so strong as they would otherwise have been, but we believe the right stamp is getting in.

In July last, just before the Camp, Capt. H. le G. Horton was invalided out of the service in consequence of injuries received during the War. This officer had been with the Battalion since its reformation as Adjutant, and it was a matter of great regret to all concerned that he should leave us. He was succeeded by Capt. D. R. Currie, Royal Scots, whom we were very pleased to welcome.

Camp this year was pitched in the park of Welbeck Abbey, on the estate of our Honorary Colonel, the Duke of Portland, K.G. It was chiefly remarkable for the amount of rain that fell on that portion of the ground occupied by the Robin Hoods; but, notwithstanding the discomforts, all ranks seem to have enjoyed themselves, and certainly benefited very much from the practical training and very interesting work they were called upon to do.

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The presence of the Cadre Platoon from the Normanton Depot was found of great assistance in tactical work, and it is earnestly hoped that the same arrangement may be carried out another year, as it affords an opportunity for the Territorial soldier to get in touch and keep up to date with the principles that are adopted in training the regular army.

Colonel the Duke of Portland, K.G., and Field-Marshal Sir William Robertson, who was staying with him, attended our Church Parade in Camp and afterwards inspected the Battalion. The kindly interest taken by our Honorary Colonel the Duke and his distinguished guest was very much appreciated by all ranks of the Robin Hoods.

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X

8TH BATTALION NOTES

THE Battalion made rapid strides during the year, and grew from a strength in Other Ranks of 355 at the beginning to 565 at the end, only 115 short of establishment. Most of those who joined were young recruits without any previous service but having the great merit of keenness for the job they were undertaking. At the end of the year the proportion of War Veterans was about 45 per cent as compared with 65 per cent in 1920.

We remained practically up to establishment in Officers, though several changes took place. Major Wordsworth found it impossible to run D Company from his home in Derbyshire and went on to Battalion Headquarters, his place being taken by Capt. Weetman from A Company. Lieut. Cursham also left A Company to take command of the Battalion Machine Gun Platoon. B Company lost Capt. Turner, who left on appointment to a commission in the 1st Sherwood Foresters, but was joined by Lieut. T. A. Ford, who had served in the Royal Air Force, and by 2nd Lieut. J. Green. Capt. Lomer succeeded Capt. White in command of C Company, which also lost Lieut. Andrews, who joined the 1st Sherwood Foresters, and Lieut. Webster, who went on to the Reserve. These gaps were filled by the appointment of Lieuts. G. H. Alcock from the 1st Reserve Garrison Battalion the Suffolk Regiment, and A. Jepson, who was transferred from the 6th Sherwood Foresters. Capt. Pollard resigned his appointment as Quartermaster, and was succeeded by Capt. W. L. Renwick, M.C., who, having served originally in the East Yorkshire Regiment, afterwards transferred to the Sherwood Foresters, and saw considerable service in France, firstly as Adjutant of the 15th Battalion and later in command of a company in the Labour Corps.

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It was with much regret that we had to part with R.S.M. Mounteney on discharge, but it is very gratifying to know that through the instrumentality of Officers of the Battalion he has secured a good appointment in civil life, in which we wish him every success. He was succeeded by C.S.M. F. Walker from the Depot at Derby, who had been Instructor at Southwell before the War. Sergt. Brittle took over Permanent Staff duties at Arnold for A Company, who were also fortunate in getting Sergt. Handley appointed to Carlton. C.S.M. Powditch left the Retford Detachment of D Company on discharge, and C.S.M. Underwood was relieved at Southwell by Sergt. Solari.

During the year the Territorial Decoration was awarded to Major A. C. Clarke, and Territorial Efficiency Medals to Sergts. L. W. Bell and H. Shepperson, and to Ptes. E. Read, W. O. Smith and T. Webster, all of A Company.

The normal progress of the year's training prior to going to Camp was very much interfered with by the creation of the Defence Force, which was formed for Home Defence at a critical time in the internal history of this country. This force was in being from early in April until the beginning of July. True it enabled all who joined it to make considerable progress with their training, but it was not conducive to the general well-being of the Battalion as a Territorial Unit. The Defence Force Battalion reached a strength of 16 Officers and 235 Other Ranks, a very large number of whom joined from this Battalion.

Fortunately the demobilisation of the Defence Force took place just in time to allow of arrangements being made for Territorial Units to go to Camp. At one time there was considerable doubt about this, but any difficulties there may have been were satisfactorily disposed of.

The place chosen for the 138th and 139th Brigades was Skegness, and on July 31st we found ourselves encamped in a pleasant spot off Burgh Road at the north end of the town, only a short distance from the town itself, and not too far from the north shore to prevent the energetic members of the Battalion from enjoying a swim before breakfast. The chief drawback about our part of the Camp was that we were rather cramped for space, and A Company would probably have

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preferred to be not quite so close to the Officers' Lines, and the Officers would certainly have agreed. Our strength in Camp was 22 Officers and 536 Other Ranks.

In spite of the difficulties already referred to, our training was in a much more forward state than when we went to Scarborough in 1920, and all efforts were concentrated on trying to teach each Platoon to carry out a small attack. By the end of Camp we felt that most of us had begun to get some idea of what the job was, and we had practical proofs that "Brass Hats" and "Inspections" had no terrors for us. Lt.-Gen. Sir Ivor Maxse, K.C.B., G.O.C. Northern Command, made a tour of the Brigade on August 9th and expressed himself as very well pleased with what he saw, and was particularly impressed that the Battalion, and indeed the whole Brigade, appeared to have grasped the necessity of the proper organisation of Sections and the importance of the rôle of the Section Commander. Col. Goodman, the Brigade Commander, held a "Full Marching Order" Parade one day, and on another occasion worked out a small Tactical Exercise with the Officers and N.C.O.'s, the subject of which was "The Company as an Advance Guard." On August 10th the Brigade marched to Gibraltar Point, on the south side of the town, where we spent a pleasant half-hour watching a Demonstration Platoon using Tracer Ammunition, and the usual Brigade Ceremonial took place on August 13th. Brigade sports were held on the previous afternoon but were rather marred by the weather. Lieut. Jepson was first in the Quarter Mile and second in the Obstacle Race and the Mile. The Battalion Football Competition again ended in a win for B Company, who beat D Company in the final by two goals to one.

The Brigade Massed Bands and Drums gave an excellent Torchlight Tattoo in the Marine Gardens one night, which attracted a large attendance. Unfortunately the local authorities showed a lack of judgment in dealing with the crowd waiting for admission, which eventually swept away the barrier and broke into the grounds. The takings, which were divided between various hospitals, suffered in consequence.

After Camp the most important work was the completion

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of the year's musketry, the results of which were on the whole quite satisfactory. B Company had the best averages with 70·2 for trained men and 75·5 for recruits. Six of the seven cups for highest individual scores and figures of merit in the Standard Tests also went to that Company, the seventh being won by D Company.

A Battalion Rifle Meeting was held on the Trent Range on October 15th, the complete success of which was due entirely to the initiative of the C.O. and the Adjutant, who are to be congratulated on the fact that it was the only meeting of the kind held during the year in the 46th Division. The Competition for the best Rifle Section was won by D Company, A Company being a close second. D Company also won the Lewis Gun Section Competition, in which A Company were again second. The Competition for Warrant Officers and Senior N.C.O.'s was won by Sergt. Drummer Clewes, Sergt. Harrison of C Company being second, and the Junior N.C.O.'s and Privates' Competition was won by Corpl. Hayes, B Company, Drummer Dixon of the same Company coming second. Maj.-Gen. Hoskins kindly presented the prizes, and said he was very gratified with the day's results and the keenness shown.

The chief item of interest in the way of Recreation was the Boxing Tournament held on February 19th at the Worksop Drill Hall, and thanks to the indefatigable efforts of the Adjutant and C.S.M. Fitzjohn it was a great success. The winners of three of the contests were also successful at the Brigade Tournament at Derby a week later, when Corpl. Buckland, C Company, won the Fly-weights, Pte. A. Radford, C Company, the Bantam-weights, and Pte. A. Smith, A Company, the Light-weights. The two last named also won at the Divisional Tournament a few days later, and at the Inter-Divisional Tournaments at Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury, but were knocked out of the Territorial Army Championships at Manchester.

An event of considerable interest in the history of the Battalion took place on October 30th, when Earl Manvers, V.D., unveiled in Newark Parish Church the War Memorial to the Officers, N.C.O.'s and men of the 1/8th and 2/8th Sherwood Foresters, the Sherwood Rangers Yeomanry and

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8TH SHERWOOD FORESTERS' BAND, 1921

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the Old Boys of Magnus School, Newark. The Memorial consists of a Lady Chapel on the north side of the church, the contribution from the Battalion being the beautiful oak screen, the altar and the reredos. Several tablets have been put up in the chapel in memory of the fallen, and most of the furnishings have been given by friends of the Battalion. We should like to make special mention of the present from the 7th Sherwood Foresters of a chair sent by Col. Brewill and the Officers in memory of the cordial relations which existed between the two Battalions during the War. The unveiling was made the occasion for a Church Parade of B Company, together with detachments of eight N.C.O.'s and men from each of the other three Companies under Capt. Lane. There was also a large gathering of past and present Officers of the Battalion, as well as local officials and others from most of the important towns in the county.

The Band and Drums quite excelled themselves on this occasion, and it was particularly gratifying for the C.O. to receive the following letter from one who had attended the unveiling of numerous memorials: "I congratulate you on the service, and particularly the military part of it. I have been to a vast number of these services, and I think it was quite one of the best, and the rendering of the Last Post and Reveille all working up into the National Anthem was quite magnificent."

It will not be out of place here to add a word of praise for the splendid way in which the Band, after going through a distinctly difficult time, was brought to this pitch of excellence. In the piping times before the War the home of the Band was at Retford, where it was under the charge successively of Bandmasters Belcher and Dromey. The Drums, under Sergt. Drummer Clewes, who gained a D.C.M. in France for sniping, were at Newark. When the Battalion went to France in February, 1915, it was accompanied by the Drums only, and the Band as such came to an end, those members of it who went to France acting mainly in the capacity of stretcher-bearers. The instruments were loaned to the 2/8th Battalion, who took them to Ireland in 1916 and to France in 1917, where they were used by the 178th Brigade Band until early in 1918, when that Brigade ceased to be a fighting unit. They

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were eventually returned to Newark battered wrecks, and bearing the scars of many a battle. Those which were found to be worth repairing were overhauled and taken into use again.

For various reasons it was found impossible to raise the Band again at its old home when the Battalion began to be reformed in 1920, and though several old hands certainly did rejoin, it was by no means a harmonious musical unit which accompanied us to Scarborough in that year. After that Camp it was therefore decided to try and get a band together at Newark, and in April, 1921, Mr. A. F. Coyne, bandmaster of a local band in Newark, was approached with a view to raising a brass and reed band. Mr. Coyne had had some previous military experience with the Cambridgeshire Volunteers. In May notices were inserted in the local Press, and by the end of June some twenty bandsmen had been enlisted, the first of whom was J. J. Pearle, who had served with the 2/8th Battalion during the War in England and France.

By the time we went to Camp the Band was up to full strength, and as a result of the strenuous efforts made by all concerned " The 8th Band " was then the admiration of all who saw and heard it. A concert which they gave one afternoon on Skegness Pier was much appreciated by a large audience. Considering the difficulty of finding players for the various instruments in a country town, Mr. Coyne is to be congratulated on the excellent results of his efforts, and we feel sure that the Band has a great future before it. To Major A. C. Clarke too we owe a deep debt of gratitude for the enormous amount of time and labour he has expended on the Band and on the hundred-and-one other duties of a Battalion Second-in-Command.

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XI

9TH BATTALION NOTES

[What follows has been compiled from notes contributed by Lt.-Col. Murray and Capt. Loyd, but as both these correspondents were wounded much about the same time and comparatively early in the life of the Battalion, it is very much to be hoped that someone will, in another issue of the Annual, take up and continue the story where they have left off.—ED.]

THE Battalion was formed at Derby during the latter part of August, 1914, each company as it was organised and, as far as possible, equipped, being sent to join the headquarters which had been established at Grantham, just outside Belton Park, the seat of Earl Brownlow. Major, temporary Lt.-Col., Sadler was in command, with Lieut. Loyd as Adjutant, Lieut. Booker was Quartermaster and Sergt.-Major Randall was Regimental Sergeant-Major.

The first thing to be done with such a large crowd of untrained and undisciplined men was to create an establishment of non-commissioned officers, and at the beginning reliance was placed on the few old soldiers available. But the men who joined this Battalion were the pick of the county, and the work of knocking them into shape was made a real pleasure to those responsible by the extraordinary keenness of all ranks. The better-educated men were picked out and sent by their company commanders to form a class under Sergt.-Major Randall, who soon turned out as fine a body of N.C.O.'s as one could wish to see, and the Battalion was very soon completed in this respect. As far as the new Officers were concerned they gradually made their appearance after a short course in some O.T.C. or Cadet establishment formed for the occasion, and their further education in their military duties was then undertaken by their company commanders.

The Officers commanding companies were: A Company,

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Lieut. J. G. Blackburne; B Company, Lieut. Squires; C Company, Capt. Fielding; D Company, Capt. A. S. Murray.

The Battalion formed part of the 33rd Infantry Brigade, the other Battalions being the Lincolnshire Regiment (6th Battalion), the first new Battalion of the Border Regiment, and 7th Battalion South Staffordshire Regiment, under the command of Brigadier-Gen. R. P. Maxwell. This Brigade was in the 11th Division, which was commanded by Maj. Gen. Hammersley, and the whole Division was camped in Belton Park.

Lt.-Col. Bosanquet had meanwhile taken over the command of the Battalion from Lt.-Col. Sadler, who was unable to carry on owing to the effects of a wound received in the South African War. It was a sad blow to Sadler when he had to part with the Battalion he had created. He gave it a splendid start off on its career.

The first notable event in the life of the Battalion after its formation was a march to Nottingham on the 3rd April, 1915, to let the citizens of that city see their new Battalion which was then already a very smart one. The Battalion was most lavishly entertained while there, the main feature of the hospitality shown the Officers being a big dinner at the Exchange in the evening, the hosts being the Mayor, Alderman J. H. Gregg, and the Sheriff, Councillor J. Godfree Small. The Battalion was billeted all over the city, and the greatest freedom was allowed to all ranks; their discipline, however, stood the test well, and not a man was absent when the Battalion paraded next morning to return to Grantham.

On the 5th April the Division marched from Grantham *en route* to Whitley and Frensham to enjoy a more advanced training before proceeding overseas; camp that night was near Melton Mowbray, next night at Birstall and the night after at Lutterworth, where the Division entrained for Farnham. The 33rd Infantry Brigade was camped at Frensham, while the rest of the Division was at Whitley.

The training here was pretty strenuous, with long marches and generally bivouacking out during the week and returning to camp on Fridays.

On Tuesday the 29th June orders were received to embark for foreign service, and as we were told to get khaki drill, if

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possible, and foreign service helmets, we rightly guessed that we were going somewhere East, probably to the Dardanelles or the Balkans.

On the 30th we entrained at Farnham, and arrived at Liverpool at 7.30 the following morning, where we immediately embarked on the *Empress of Britain*. At 11 p.m. we sailed, escorted by four T.B.D.'s. The remainder of the Division embarked on the *Mauretania*, except the Artillery.

On the 18th July we arrived at Mudros, the base of the troops in Gallipoli, and the following day our Brigade Headquarters and the 6th Battalion Lincolnshire Regiment, under command of Lt.-Col. Phelps, embarked on the s.s. *Osmanieh* and the s.s. *El Kahira* for the Gallipoli Peninsula. On the 20th July the 7th Battalion South Staffords and the 9th Battalion Sherwood Foresters with one company of the Border Regiment embarked on the same two vessels for the Peninsula, the Sherwood Foresters being on the *El Kahira*. We arrived off the Peninsula at about 8 p.m., and then transhipped on to trawlers for V. Beach at Cape Helles, where the famous landing was first made with the aid of s.s. *River Clyde*, which now formed the landing-stage for the trawlers carrying troops to moor to.

Meanwhile the Turks had opened a heavy artillery fire on the landing-place, and the trawlers had to stand out until this abated. A large store of different coloured Verey lights, etc., was hit during this bombardment and the effect was most picturesque, the whole beach being every now and then lit up by various coloured lights. Eventually we landed about 2.30 a.m. on the 21st and marched to what was called the Rest Camp of Drake Battalion of the Royal Naval Division, though every rest camp on the Peninsula was continually under fire. However, it was quieter than the front line, and we managed to get a little sleep before going further. At 3 p.m. on the 21st we went up into the reserve trenches, taking the place of the Lincolns who went up into the first line. Heavy sniping, and every now and then continuous rifle fire, was the order of the night here, the reserve trenches getting all the bullets which came over the top of the front line trenches. This was followed in the early morning by an artillery bombardment on both sides. This appeared to be

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the customary routine, the remainder of the day being fairly quiet until the evening, when more bombardments commenced and the snipers awoke again after the heat of the day was over.

At 2.30 p.m. on the 23rd July we went into the first line, relieving the Drake and Hawke Battalions of the Royal Naval Division, B Company (Capt. Squires) and D Company (Major Murray) going into the firing line with C (Major Fielding) and A (Capt. Chambers) in support. Our first casualty took place here, when poor Fielding was hit by a sniper while walking down one of the communication trenches early on the morning of Saturday, 24th July.

We spent the rest of our time in the front line trenches improving them and opening up new communication trenches also burying (as far as was possible) the masses of dead bodies lying about.

As far as the attack on Achi Baba was concerned, the situation was practically at a deadlock and neither side could make any advance. The village of Krithia on our left front enfiladed the lines occupied by us, which were in the centre and the most advanced of any portion of the line. The Turkish snipers were always on the alert for anyone showing themselves, and were very accurate in their shooting. Nevertheless some good work was done in reorganising the line of trenches during our short stay there, with very few casualties, for which the Battalion was highly commended in Sir Ian Hamilton's Orders.

On Sunday the 1st August we were relieved by the French troops at 3.15 a.m., and marched back to the rest camp. At 10.30 that night we re-embarked on the s.s. *Osmanieh* and sailed for the island of Imbros, arriving there the following morning. Here we had quite a pleasant rest, and enjoyed the most delightful bathing well out of reach of Turkish shells and stray bullets, and at night we rehearsed disembarkation, evidently with the idea of making a new landing at some other spot on the coast.

At 5 p.m. on August 6th the 11th Division paraded and embarked on lighters, specially constructed for landing parties, and destroyers. Each destroyer towed two lighters, and each "tow" was detailed to a certain beach at Suvla Bay. As soon as it was dark we were towed in to our allotted landing-places and the landing successfully carried out with very little

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opposition. Everything worked splendidly, and the discipline and training exhibited by all ranks reflected the greatest credit on themselves and those who had trained them. I have never seen better work carried out by any troops, but an even greater exhibition of their splendid spirit was to follow shortly.

The orders received by this Battalion at Imbros on August 6th were (in conjunction with the 7th (S) Battalion South Staffordshire Regiment and both under *direct* command of G.O.C. 11th Division) to take up a position from a point on the S.W. bank of Salt Lake to the sea immediately after a landing at Suvla Bay had been effected.

On the 7th the 10th Division landed at Suvla Bay, and the attack was continued on Biyuk Anafarta, Yilghin Burnu, and by the 13th Division on Damakjelik Bair. But it seemed to be a very half-hearted sort of affair as far as the 10th and 11th Divisions were concerned. There was no really serious attack being made as far as we, on the right of the 11th Division, could see, and we received orders to remain where we were and entrench. This was disheartening, as we all expected to move on rapidly at daybreak, and all ranks were feeling so " bucked " that I feel sure if the order for a general advance had been given we would have gone across to Maidos with little difficulty. In addition there was at that time no considerable force of Turks in front of us, and our landing had been a complete surprise. This is evident, or we should not have been allowed to carry it out so easily. Our 9th Battalion actually had no casualties when landing, and there were very few throughout the Division.

However, the attack was carried on in a desultory sort of manner and Yilghin Burnu was captured. Nothing much was done on the 8th except that the attack was carried on in the same half-hearted manner. Meanwhile the 13th Division on our right, and the Anzac Division on their right again, were heavily engaged, and had actually reached the summit of Chunuk Bair, the Turks holding one side of the summit while New Zealanders held the opposite side. These New Zealanders were eventually shelled off by our own guns, and of this New Zealand Battalion only three survivors returned.

On the morning of August 9th at 4.45 a.m. the order for a general advance was received and we all advanced to the

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attack. Our Battalion advanced in the gap between Damakjelik Bair and Yilghin Burnu towards the Chocolate Hill, or, to give it its correct name, Ismail Oglu Tepe.

The country over which the line allotted to the Battalion stretched was covered with scrubby undergrowth, with here and there patches of former cultivation and two orchards. Rough narrow paths ran in many directions.

B Company under Capt. R. D. Squires and C Company under Capt. C. D. Randall moved forward in the first line. Lieut. Piper on the right of B Company and 2nd Lieut. Allpass on the left of C knew the points upon which the flanks of the line of defence of the Battalion were to rest. As had been anticipated, once the position was reached a third company was required to occupy it completely, and A Company, under Capt. G. F. Chambers, was sent forward for this purpose. D Company, under Major A. S. Murray, was kept in reserve.

By 8 a.m. a satisfactory line of defence had been taken up at the cost of 8 Officers and 150 rank and file, the Battalion having met a withering fire from enemy concealed in the scrubby undergrowth.

At about 3 p.m. the Turks attacked and got in between A and B Companies on the right. By this time the sum total of Officers in these two companies was two 2nd Lieutenants.

Lt.-Col. L. A. Bosanquet, mobilising all possible signallers, runners, servants, etc., went forward, and, counter attacking, succeeded in beating off the Turks and bringing off an orderly retirement of the Battalion to a much more secure and better-placed position in the dry bed of a river 400 yards in rear of the Battalion's original position.

By this time 7 Officers had been killed, 11 wounded, including the Colonel, and 1 missing, and the strength of the Battalion in rank and file reduced to about 300.

At 5 p.m. the 1/1st Herefords came up to reinforce the Battalion. They arrived half Battalion strong as they had been badly shelled, they said, on the way up, the other half Battalion therefore remaining in the Salt Lake trenches which the Sherwood Foresters had vacated that morning.

When dark the Herefords took over the right of the line, and the remnants of the two companies thus released were formed into a reserve. At midnight the Herefords were

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withdrawn, being required for an attack the following morning. The right of the line was therefore taken over by the "reserve" under command of the Adjutant, Capt. F. F. Loyd. Between the right flank of the Battalion and the left flank of the South Wales Borderers (13th Div.) there was an absolutely unavoidable gap of a mile. Altogether a pleasant position on a three days' empty stomach.

There was some desultory fighting during the night, luckily no concentrated attack.

Note I

On March 27th, 1916, Sir Ian Hamilton published a despatch supplementary to that of December 11th, 1195, in which he said:—

"The 9th (Service) Battalion The Sherwood Foresters had constantly maintained stout hearts and a soldierly spirit in despite of the heavy losses they had suffered when carrying out their costly duty of closing the big gap between the left of the Anzac troops and Chocolate Hill from the 8th to 14th August. On August 21st this same Battalion, together with 6th (Service) Battalion The Lincolnshire Regiment, displayed a vigorous initiative, combined with very steady discipline, during the attack on Ismail Oglu Tepe."

Note II

The present Duke of Atholl, then Lord Tullibardine, found the body of Col. Bosanquet some time after the attack of August 21st, and in a letter on the subject wrote thus:—

"He was lying a few yards in front of his men, who were in perfect alignment with never a back turned, a few yards from the Turkish trenches."

The following Officers landed at Suvla Bay August 6th with 9th (Service) Battalion The Sherwood Foresters:—

Lt.-Col. L. A. Bosanquet	Wounded August 9th; killed 21st.
Major J. G. Blackburne.	Killed August 21st.
Major A. S. Murray .	Wounded August 9th.
Capt. R. D. Squires .	Killed August 9th.
„ H. L. B. Mills .	Wounded August 9th.

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Capt. C. D. Randall	Killed August 9th.
,, T. B. Black	Killed August 9th.
Lieut. E. D. Basden	Wounded August 9th.
,, S. H. Piper	Wounded August 9th.
,, W. C. Mayo	Killed August 9th.
,, A. G. Wills	Killed August 9th.
,, J. F. M. Hind	Wounded August 9th.
,, A. E. Scothern	Wounded August 9th.
,, H. P. Carey	Killed August 9th.
2nd Lieut. R. J. Nicholls	Wounded August 9th.
,, W. West	Killed August 9th. (This Officer had been wounded previously while with the Battalion at Cape Helles.)
,, E. T. Allpass	Killed August 21st.
,, C. E. Scott	Wounded August 9th.
,, F. C. Brown	Killed August 9th.
,, E. H. Marsh	Wounded.
,, J. C. Harrison	Wounded August 10th.
Capt. & Adjt. F. F. Loyd	Wounded August 10th.
Lieut. & Qmr. A. Ewin	Killed August 11th.
Med. Officer Lieut. Carr.	

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XII

THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OR NARRATIVE OF A SOLDIER

PART II

VITTORIA

DURING the winter, our army received a great accession of strength, by numerous reinforcements from Britain; while every attention was paid to recruit and reorganize the army after the fatigues of the last campaign. . . . The commencement of the month of May, 1813, saw our army in high spirits, and completely equipped for the arduous campaign, which was now about to open. We were abundantly supplied with every necessity and comfort that in the nature of things could be expected. Tents were also provided for the whole army, which were a great convenience, and of infinite service on many occasions. All things being in readiness, our Regiment, on the 16th, in conjunction with the rest of the army, left its cantonments, in order once more to try its fortune in Spain.

Having crossed the Douro in boats, near the Portuguese frontier, our army issued from the deep valleys of that kingdom. The enemy retreated with the utmost expedition by Valladolid, in the direction of Burgos. . . . On June 16th our whole army crossed the Ebro at Quintana; the French continuing to fall back in the direction of Vittoria, at which place they, on the 20th, took up a strong position, determined to try the fate of a general engagement. But long ere we reached that point we were much in want of provisions, being several days on half allowance of bread, which was not very agreeable to men on a fatiguing march during the day, and encamped at night. The country had been exhausted by the enemy

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during their retreat, so that no hopes could be entertained of a supply in that quarter; while our prospects in regard to the stores that were following us, were equally dark. By the 16th, our stores being completely exhausted, we had to subsist on what we could pick up in the fields where we encamped. The bean fields, which were very numerous in that part of the country, were now our only resource. The stalks were torn up by the roots, and carried in armfuls by our men to the camp, but not having come to maturity, nor indeed half grown, the hulls, leaves, and tender tops of the straw, were boiled and devoured with the greatest avidity. Such was our fare for five days preceding the Battle of Vittoria.

On the 21st, at an early hour, our Division commenced the march and, proceeding along the road two leagues, we afterwards filed to the right and ascended a height, from the summit of which we had an extensive view of the valley of the Zadora. It lay immediately in our front, intersected with cornfields and vineyards, and shaded with many smiling villages, conspicuously among which stood the town of Vittoria, situated some miles to our left. The valley appeared about three miles broad in front, but extended to a much greater breadth on our left, and was bounded on the opposite side by a chain of hills of considerable height, on which were drawn up in battle array the legions of France. The dark, deep and rapid Zadora flowed along the bottom of the heights they occupied, which were fortified with breastworks and redoubts, and strongly lined with cannon; while a broad and level plain intervened between the contending hosts. . . . Notwithstanding all these formidable obstacles, it was determined by the Commander-in-Chief immediately to commence the attack. Being ordered to move forward, we descended the heights and advanced across the plain in the direction of the enemy. On gaining the river-side, it was found unfordable, by reason of the strength of the current, and the depth of water. This was a very unfortunate circumstance, for we were now sorely galled by the enemy's cannon shot from the heights, and annoyed by the fire of their light troops stationed on the opposite bank. We then moved to a bridge, some hundred yards higher up, but which was found barricaded with wood. From an isolated hill in front of the

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chain of heights, and about 200 yards from the bridge, the enemy kept up a heavy cannonade, mowing down our ranks, and literally making lanes through our columns. The bridge being found impassable, to ford the river was once more attempted; but all our efforts in this proving of no avail, orders were given to counter-march, and force the bridge. Being hemmed in between a high thorn hedge and the end of the bridge, we had not space left for this evolution, so that the column got into confusion. This was a dreadful moment. From the enemy's cannon the shot flew quick, our men fell fast, and nothing less than total destruction seemed inevitable, when a round shot from the French struck the barricading, and threw the planks of which it was composed to a considerable distance. Our troops, like lions pursuing their prey, immediately rushed on the bridge, and without any orders being given, cheering as they went, flew up the road, climbed the height, and neither stopped nor stayed until they were on the summit and in possession of the enemy's redoubt, who, in their flight, left behind four pieces of cannon, and a quantity of arms and ammunition. . . .

A short time previous to the flight of the enemy, in a charge made on them by our Brigade, Colonel Ridewood, commanding our Regiment, received a wound in his left arm; but brandishing his sword over his head, he exclaimed: "Never mind this, my lads, I will lead you on to glory!" When dashing across the field, our progress was arrested by a high and close hedge, while the enemy from a neighbouring field kept up a most destructive fire upon us, by which our Brigade suffered severely. Several of our Company were killed. At this moment the balls flew as thick as hail, one of which struck my breastplate, which prevented any further injury. At the same time, my comrade, while standing conversing with me, received one in the very centre of his forehead. He fell at my feet, and expired without a groan. He was a native of Ireland, a brave soldier, and had seen much service. As I stood sorrowfully leaning over him, watching the last moments of his existence, I was pulled from behind by the belts, and on turning round, I was ordered by the Adjutant to go and assist in carrying off the Colonel. Three others being ordered on this duty, we found our gallant

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Departures: Major V. O. Robinson, M.C.; Capts. L. Percival, M.C.; W. N. Broomhead, T.D.; Lieut. G. Rivington; J. W. Potter, D.S.O.; and H. Higham. All to Reserve of Officers.

A./R.S.M. J. G. Hancock and C.S.M. H. Thorpe discharged to Pension.

Clr.-Sergt. C. Watson rejoined the 1st Battalion on reduction of the establishment of Permanent Staff Instructors.

Deaths: Pte. P. Kelly, D.C.M., Letter A Company.

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IX

7TH BATTALION NOTES

THE first event of importance after the Skegness camp last year was the unveiling of the Robin Hood War Memorial in St. Mary's Church on October 16th, 1921. A parade was formed in the Nottingham Great Market-place, where a short service was held with the idea of giving the hundreds of people who were unable to find accommodation in the church a chance of taking part in the ceremony. There were present the serving Battalion and a large company formed of ex-members, officers, non-commissioned officers and men who served with the Robin Hoods during and before the War.

An interesting link with the past was the presence on parade of the Colours presented in the early sixties to the 1st Notts Rifle Volunteers, the original Robin Hood Rifles. These Colours now hang on either side of the Memorial in St. Mary's Church, and carry the battle honour of South Africa, 1900–02, commemorating the first time the Volunteer Battalion had the honour of serving in war with our parent Battalion of the Sherwood Foresters. The parade marched to St. Mary's Church, the Colours being escorted by a party of old Robin Hoods in the Lincoln green. The Memorial was unveiled by Major-Gen. The Honourable E. J. Montagu-Stuart-Wortley, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., who commanded the 46th Division during its early service in France. The sermon was preached by the former Chaplain of the Robin Hoods, the Rev. H. T. Hayman, M.A., T.D.

The Memorial itself comprises a bronze tablet about 9 feet long, representing a party of the Robin Hoods returning from the trenches, with underneath a bronze safe containing, on vellum, the names of those who fell in the War. This was illustrated in last year's Regimental Annual.

In February, 1922, after forty-four years' continuous service,

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the period of command granted to Lt.-Col. A. W. Brewill, D.S.O., V.D., T.D., expired, to the very deep regret of all ranks. Col. Brewill went overseas as second-in-command of the Battalion in February, 1915, when well over the age limit, taking over command in August, he led the Robin Hoods with great distinction during the anxious and strenuous days of 1915 and 1916, until invalided out as no longer medically fit. His untiring energy and great personal interest in the Volunteer Force and later in the Territorial Battalion has meant much to the Regiment, which he reformed after the War, and he was chiefly instrumental in getting together the funds for our Memorial, and also edited and published the Robin Hood War History.

Lt.-Col. W. R. Rook, O.B.E., T.D., was appointed to command, Major Herbert Bradwell, T.D., second-in-command, and Capt. D. H. Richardson, M.C., took over command of C Company from Capt. L. C. Cooper, T.D., an old Robin Hood, who retired under the new establishment.

Recruiting for the Battalion was somewhat retarded in the early winter owing to a new establishment for the Territorial Army, and as now it has been found necessary, in view of the very great unemployment existing in the town, to select very carefully the men for the Battalion, numbers are not so strong as they would otherwise have been, but we believe the right stamp is getting in.

In July last, just before the Camp, Capt. H. le G. Horton was invalided out of the service in consequence of injuries received during the War. This officer had been with the Battalion since its reformation as Adjutant, and it was a matter of great regret to all concerned that he should leave us. He was succeeded by Capt. D. R. Currie, Royal Scots, whom we were very pleased to welcome.

Camp this year was pitched in the park of Welbeck Abbey, on the estate of our Honorary Colonel, the Duke of Portland, K.G. It was chiefly remarkable for the amount of rain that fell on that portion of the ground occupied by the Robin Hoods; but, notwithstanding the discomforts, all ranks seem to have enjoyed themselves, and certainly benefited very much from the practical training and very interesting work they were called upon to do.

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The presence of the Cadre Platoon from the Normanton Depot was found of great assistance in tactical work, and it is earnestly hoped that the same arrangement may be carried out another year, as it affords an opportunity for the Territorial soldier to get in touch and keep up to date with the principles that are adopted in training the regular army.

Colonel the Duke of Portland, K.G., and Field-Marshal Sir William Robertson, who was staying with him, attended our Church Parade in Camp and afterwards inspected the Battalion. The kindly interest taken by our Honorary Colonel the Duke and his distinguished guest was very much appreciated by all ranks of the Robin Hoods.

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8TH BATTALION NOTES

THE Battalion made rapid strides during the year, and grew from a strength in Other Ranks of 355 at the beginning to 565 at the end, only 115 short of establishment. Most of those who joined were young recruits without any previous service but having the great merit of keenness for the job they were undertaking. At the end of the year the proportion of War Veterans was about 45 per cent as compared with 65 per cent in 1920.

We remained practically up to establishment in Officers, though several changes took place. Major Wordsworth found it impossible to run D Company from his home in Derbyshire and went on to Battalion Headquarters, his place being taken by Capt. Weetman from A Company. Lieut. Cursham also left A Company to take command of the Battalion Machine Gun Platoon. B Company lost Capt. Turner, who left on appointment to a commission in the 1st Sherwood Foresters, but was joined by Lieut. T. A. Ford, who had served in the Royal Air Force, and by 2nd Lieut. J. Green. Capt. Lomer succeeded Capt. White in command of C Company, which also lost Lieut. Andrews, who joined the 1st Sherwood Foresters, and Lieut. Webster, who went on to the Reserve. These gaps were filled by the appointment of Lieuts. G. H. Alcock from the 1st Reserve Garrison Battalion the Suffolk Regiment, and A. Jepson, who was transferred from the 6th Sherwood Foresters. Capt. Pollard resigned his appointment as Quartermaster, and was succeeded by Capt. W. L. Renwick, M.C., who, having served originally in the East Yorkshire Regiment, afterwards transferred to the Sherwood Foresters, and saw considerable service in France, firstly as Adjutant of the 15th Battalion and later in command of a company in the Labour Corps.

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It was with much regret that we had to part with R.S.M. Mounteney on discharge, but it is very gratifying to know that through the instrumentality of Officers of the Battalion he has secured a good appointment in civil life, in which we wish him every success. He was succeeded by C.S.M. F. Walker from the Depot at Derby, who had been Instructor at Southwell before the War. Sergt. Brittle took over Permanent Staff duties at Arnold for A Company, who were also fortunate in getting Sergt. Handley appointed to Carlton. C.S.M. Powditch left the Retford Detachment of D Company on discharge, and C.S.M. Underwood was relieved at Southwell by Sergt. Solari.

During the year the Territorial Decoration was awarded to Major A. C. Clarke, and Territorial Efficiency Medals to Sergts. L. W. Bell and H. Shepperson, and to Ptes. E. Read, W. O. Smith and T. Webster, all of A Company.

The normal progress of the year's training prior to going to Camp was very much interfered with by the creation of the Defence Force, which was formed for Home Defence at a critical time in the internal history of this country. This force was in being from early in April until the beginning of July. True it enabled all who joined it to make considerable progress with their training, but it was not conducive to the general well-being of the Battalion as a Territorial Unit. The Defence Force Battalion reached a strength of 16 Officers and 235 Other Ranks, a very large number of whom joined from this Battalion.

Fortunately the demobilisation of the Defence Force took place just in time to allow of arrangements being made for Territorial Units to go to Camp. At one time there was considerable doubt about this, but any difficulties there may have been were satisfactorily disposed of.

The place chosen for the 138th and 139th Brigades was Skegness, and on July 31st we found ourselves encamped in a pleasant spot off Burgh Road at the north end of the town, only a short distance from the town itself, and not too far from the north shore to prevent the energetic members of the Battalion from enjoying a swim before breakfast. The chief drawback about our part of the Camp was that we were rather cramped for space, and A Company would probably have

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preferred to be not quite so close to the Officers' Lines, and the Officers would certainly have agreed. Our strength in Camp was 22 Officers and 536 Other Ranks.

In spite of the difficulties already referred to, our training was in a much more forward state than when we went to Scarborough in 1920, and all efforts were concentrated on trying to teach each Platoon to carry out a small attack. By the end of Camp we felt that most of us had begun to get some idea of what the job was, and we had practical proofs that "Brass Hats" and "Inspections" had no terrors for us. Lt.-Gen. Sir Ivor Maxse, K.C.B., G.O.C. Northern Command, made a tour of the Brigade on August 9th and expressed himself as very well pleased with what he saw, and was particularly impressed that the Battalion, and indeed the whole Brigade, appeared to have grasped the necessity of the proper organisation of Sections and the importance of the rôle of the Section Commander. Col. Goodman, the Brigade Commander, held a "Full Marching Order" Parade one day, and on another occasion worked out a small Tactical Exercise with the Officers and N.C.O.'s, the subject of which was "The Company as an Advance Guard." On August 10th the Brigade marched to Gibraltar Point, on the south side of the town, where we spent a pleasant half-hour watching a Demonstration Platoon using Tracer Ammunition, and the usual Brigade Ceremonial took place on August 13th. Brigade sports were held on the previous afternoon but were rather marred by the weather. Lieut. Jepson was first in the Quarter Mile and second in the Obstacle Race and the Mile. The Battalion Football Competition again ended in a win for B Company, who beat D Company in the final by two goals to one.

The Brigade Massed Bands and Drums gave an excellent Torchlight Tattoo in the Marine Gardens one night, which attracted a large attendance. Unfortunately the local authorities showed a lack of judgment in dealing with the crowd waiting for admission, which eventually swept away the barrier and broke into the grounds. The takings, which were divided between various hospitals, suffered in consequence.

After Camp the most important work was the completion

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of the year's musketry, the results of which were on the whole quite satisfactory. B Company had the best averages with 70·2 for trained men and 75·5 for recruits. Six of the seven cups for highest individual scores and figures of merit in the Standard Tests also went to that Company, the seventh being won by D Company.

A Battalion Rifle Meeting was held on the Trent Range on October 15th, the complete success of which was due entirely to the initiative of the C.O. and the Adjutant, who are to be congratulated on the fact that it was the only meeting of the kind held during the year in the 46th Division. The Competition for the best Rifle Section was won by D Company, A Company being a close second. D Company also won the Lewis Gun Section Competition, in which A Company were again second. The Competition for Warrant Officers and Senior N.C.O.'s was won by Sergt. Drummer Clewes, Sergt. Harrison of C Company being second, and the Junior N.C.O.'s and Privates' Competition was won by Corpl. Hayes, B Company, Drummer Dixon of the same Company coming second. Maj.-Gen. Hoskins kindly presented the prizes, and said he was very gratified with the day's results and the keenness shown.

The chief item of interest in the way of Recreation was the Boxing Tournament held on February 19th at the Worksop Drill Hall, and thanks to the indefatigable efforts of the Adjutant and C.S.M. Fitzjohn it was a great success. The winners of three of the contests were also successful at the Brigade Tournament at Derby a week later, when Corpl. Buckland, C Company, won the Fly-weights, Pte. A. Radford, C Company, the Bantam-weights, and Pte. A. Smith, A Company, the Light-weights. The two last named also won at the Divisional Tournament a few days later, and at the Inter-Divisional Tournaments at Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury, but were knocked out of the Territorial Army Championships at Manchester.

An event of considerable interest in the history of the Battalion took place on October 30th, when Earl Manvers, V.D., unveiled in Newark Parish Church the War Memorial to the Officers, N.C.O.'s and men of the 1/8th and 2/8th Sherwood Foresters, the Sherwood Rangers Yeomanry and

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8TH SHERWOOD FORESTERS' BAND, 1921

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the Old Boys of Magnus School, Newark. The Memorial consists of a Lady Chapel on the north side of the church, the contribution from the Battalion being the beautiful oak screen, the altar and the reredos. Several tablets have been put up in the chapel in memory of the fallen, and most of the furnishings have been given by friends of the Battalion. We should like to make special mention of the present from the 7th Sherwood Foresters of a chair sent by Col. Brewill and the Officers in memory of the cordial relations which existed between the two Battalions during the War. The unveiling was made the occasion for a Church Parade of B Company, together with detachments of eight N.C.O.'s and men from each of the other three Companies under Capt. Lane. There was also a large gathering of past and present Officers of the Battalion, as well as local officials and others from most of the important towns in the county.

The Band and Drums quite excelled themselves on this occasion, and it was particularly gratifying for the C.O. to receive the following letter from one who had attended the unveiling of numerous memorials: "I congratulate you on the service, and particularly the military part of it. I have been to a vast number of these services, and I think it was quite one of the best, and the rendering of the Last Post and Reveille all working up into the National Anthem was quite magnificent."

It will not be out of place here to add a word of praise for the splendid way in which the Band, after going through a distinctly difficult time, was brought to this pitch of excellence. In the piping times before the War the home of the Band was at Retford, where it was under the charge successively of Bandmasters Belcher and Dromey. The Drums, under Sergt. Drummer Clewes, who gained a D.C.M. in France for sniping, were at Newark. When the Battalion went to France in February, 1915, it was accompanied by the Drums only, and the Band as such came to an end, those members of it who went to France acting mainly in the capacity of stretcher-bearers. The instruments were loaned to the 2/8th Battalion, who took them to Ireland in 1916 and to France in 1917, where they were used by the 178th Brigade Band until early in 1918, when that Brigade ceased to be a fighting unit. They

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were eventually returned to Newark battered wrecks, and bearing the scars of many a battle. Those which were found to be worth repairing were overhauled and taken into use again.

For various reasons it was found impossible to raise the Band again at its old home when the Battalion began to be reformed in 1920, and though several old hands certainly did rejoin, it was by no means a harmonious musical unit which accompanied us to Scarborough in that year. After that Camp it was therefore decided to try and get a band together at Newark, and in April, 1921, Mr. A. F. Coyne, bandmaster of a local band in Newark, was approached with a view to raising a brass and reed band. Mr. Coyne had had some previous military experience with the Cambridgeshire Volunteers. In May notices were inserted in the local Press, and by the end of June some twenty bandsmen had been enlisted, the first of whom was J. J. Pearle, who had served with the 2/8th Battalion during the War in England and France.

By the time we went to Camp the Band was up to full strength, and as a result of the strenuous efforts made by all concerned " The 8th Band " was then the admiration of all who saw and heard it. A concert which they gave one afternoon on Skegness Pier was much appreciated by a large audience. Considering the difficulty of finding players for the various instruments in a country town, Mr. Coyne is to be congratulated on the excellent results of his efforts, and we feel sure that the Band has a great future before it. To Major A. C. Clarke too we owe a deep debt of gratitude for the enormous amount of time and labour he has expended on the Band and on the hundred-and-one other duties of a Battalion Second-in-Command.

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XI

9TH BATTALION NOTES

[What follows has been compiled from notes contributed by Lt.-Col. Murray and Capt. Loyd, but as both these correspondents were wounded much about the same time and comparatively early in the life of the Battalion, it is very much to be hoped that someone will, in another issue of the Annual, take up and continue the story where they have left off.—ED.]

THE Battalion was formed at Derby during the latter part of August, 1914, each company as it was organised and, as far as possible, equipped, being sent to join the headquarters which had been established at Grantham, just outside Belton Park, the seat of Earl Brownlow. Major, temporary Lt.-Col., Sadler was in command, with Lieut. Loyd as Adjutant, Lieut. Booker was Quartermaster and Sergt.-Major Randall was Regimental Sergeant-Major.

The first thing to be done with such a large crowd of untrained and undisciplined men was to create an establishment of non-commissioned officers, and at the beginning reliance was placed on the few old soldiers available. But the men who joined this Battalion were the pick of the county, and the work of knocking them into shape was made a real pleasure to those responsible by the extraordinary keenness of all ranks. The better-educated men were picked out and sent by their company commanders to form a class under Sergt.-Major Randall, who soon turned out as fine a body of N.C.O.'s as one could wish to see, and the Battalion was very soon completed in this respect. As far as the new Officers were concerned they gradually made their appearance after a short course in some O.T.C. or Cadet establishment formed for the occasion, and their further education in their military duties was then undertaken by their company commanders.

The Officers commanding companies were: A Company,

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Lieut. J. G. Blackburne; B Company, Lieut. Squires; C Company, Capt. Fielding; D Company, Capt. A. S. Murray.

The Battalion formed part of the 33rd Infantry Brigade, the other Battalions being the Lincolnshire Regiment (6th Battalion), the first new Battalion of the Border Regiment, and 7th Battalion South Staffordshire Regiment, under the command of Brigadier-Gen. R. P. Maxwell. This Brigade was in the 11th Division, which was commanded by Maj. Gen. Hammersley, and the whole Division was camped in Belton Park.

Lt.-Col. Bosanquet had meanwhile taken over the command of the Battalion from Lt.-Col. Sadler, who was unable to carry on owing to the effects of a wound received in the South African War. It was a sad blow to Sadler when he had to part with the Battalion he had created. He gave it a splendid start off on its career.

The first notable event in the life of the Battalion after its formation was a march to Nottingham on the 3rd April, 1915, to let the citizens of that city see their new Battalion which was then already a very smart one. The Battalion was most lavishly entertained while there, the main feature of the hospitality shown the Officers being a big dinner at the Exchange in the evening, the hosts being the Mayor, Alderman J. H. Gregg, and the Sheriff, Councillor J. Godfree Small. The Battalion was billeted all over the city, and the greatest freedom was allowed to all ranks; their discipline, however, stood the test well, and not a man was absent when the Battalion paraded next morning to return to Grantham.

On the 5th April the Division marched from Grantham *en route* to Whitley and Frensham to enjoy a more advanced training before proceeding overseas; camp that night was near Melton Mowbray, next night at Birstall and the night after at Lutterworth, where the Division entrained for Farnham. The 33rd Infantry Brigade was camped at Frensham, while the rest of the Division was at Whitley.

The training here was pretty strenuous, with long marches and generally bivouacking out during the week and returning to camp on Fridays.

On Tuesday the 29th June orders were received to embark for foreign service, and as we were told to get khaki drill, if

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possible, and foreign service helmets, we rightly guessed that we were going somewhere East, probably to the Dardanelles or the Balkans.

On the 30th we entrained at Farnham, and arrived at Liverpool at 7.30 the following morning, where we immediately embarked on the *Empress of Britain*. At 11 p.m. we sailed, escorted by four T.B.D.'s. The remainder of the Division embarked on the *Mauretania*, except the Artillery.

On the 18th July we arrived at Mudros, the base of the troops in Gallipoli, and the following day our Brigade Headquarters and the 6th Battalion Lincolnshire Regiment, under command of Lt.-Col. Phelps, embarked on the s.s. *Osmanieh* and the s.s. *El Kahira* for the Gallipoli Peninsula. On the 20th July the 7th Battalion South Staffords and the 9th Battalion Sherwood Foresters with one company of the Border Regiment embarked on the same two vessels for the Peninsula, the Sherwood Foresters being on the *El Kahira*. We arrived off the Peninsula at about 8 p.m., and then transhipped on to trawlers for V. Beach at Cape Helles, where the famous landing was first made with the aid of s.s. *River Clyde*, which now formed the landing-stage for the trawlers carrying troops to moor to.

Meanwhile the Turks had opened a heavy artillery fire on the landing-place, and the trawlers had to stand out until this abated. A large store of different coloured Verey lights, etc., was hit during this bombardment and the effect was most picturesque, the whole beach being every now and then lit up by various coloured lights. Eventually we landed about 2.30 a.m. on the 21st and marched to what was called the Rest Camp of Drake Battalion of the Royal Naval Division, though every rest camp on the Peninsula was continually under fire. However, it was quieter than the front line, and we managed to get a little sleep before going further. At 3 p.m. on the 21st we went up into the reserve trenches, taking the place of the Lincolns who went up into the first line. Heavy sniping, and every now and then continuous rifle fire, was the order of the night here, the reserve trenches getting all the bullets which came over the top of the front line trenches. This was followed in the early morning by an artillery bombardment on both sides. This appeared to be

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the customary routine, the remainder of the day being fairly quiet until the evening, when more bombardments commenced and the snipers awoke again after the heat of the day was over.

At 2.30 p.m. on the 23rd July we went into the first line, relieving the Drake and Hawke Battalions of the Royal Naval Division, B Company (Capt. Squires) and D Company (Major Murray) going into the firing line with C (Major Fielding) and A (Capt. Chambers) in support. Our first casualty took place here, when poor Fielding was hit by a sniper while walking down one of the communication trenches early on the morning of Saturday, 24th July.

We spent the rest of our time in the front line trenches improving them and opening up new communication trenches also burying (as far as was possible) the masses of dead bodies lying about.

As far as the attack on Achi Baba was concerned, the situation was practically at a deadlock and neither side could make any advance. The village of Krithia on our left front enfiladed the lines occupied by us, which were in the centre and the most advanced of any portion of the line. The Turkish snipers were always on the alert for anyone showing themselves, and were very accurate in their shooting. Nevertheless some good work was done in reorganising the line of trenches during our short stay there, with very few casualties, for which the Battalion was highly commended in Sir Ian Hamilton's Orders.

On Sunday the 1st August we were relieved by the French troops at 3.15 a.m., and marched back to the rest camp. At 10.30 that night we re-embarked on the s.s. *Osmanieh* and sailed for the island of Imbros, arriving there the following morning. Here we had quite a pleasant rest, and enjoyed the most delightful bathing well out of reach of Turkish shells and stray bullets, and at night we rehearsed disembarkation, evidently with the idea of making a new landing at some other spot on the coast.

At 5 p.m. on August 6th the 11th Division paraded and embarked on lighters, specially constructed for landing parties, and destroyers. Each destroyer towed two lighters, and each "tow" was detailed to a certain beach at Suvla Bay. As soon as it was dark we were towed in to our allotted landing-places and the landing successfully carried out with very little

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opposition. Everything worked splendidly, and the discipline and training exhibited by all ranks reflected the greatest credit on themselves and those who had trained them. I have never seen better work carried out by any troops, but an even greater exhibition of their splendid spirit was to follow shortly.

The orders received by this Battalion at Imbros on August 6th were (in conjunction with the 7th (S) Battalion South Staffordshire Regiment and both under *direct* command of G.O.C. 11th Division) to take up a position from a point on the S.W. bank of Salt Lake to the sea immediately after a landing at Suvla Bay had been effected.

On the 7th the 10th Division landed at Suvla Bay, and the attack was continued on Biyuk Anafarta, Yilghin Burnu, and by the 13th Division on Damakjelik Bair. But it seemed to be a very half-hearted sort of affair as far as the 10th and 11th Divisions were concerned. There was no really serious attack being made as far as we, on the right of the 11th Division, could see, and we received orders to remain where we were and entrench. This was disheartening, as we all expected to move on rapidly at daybreak, and all ranks were feeling so " bucked " that I feel sure if the order for a general advance had been given we would have gone across to Maidos with little difficulty. In addition there was at that time no considerable force of Turks in front of us, and our landing had been a complete surprise. This is evident, or we should not have been allowed to carry it out so easily. Our 9th Battalion actually had no casualties when landing, and there were very few throughout the Division.

However, the attack was carried on in a desultory sort of manner and Yilghin Burnu was captured. Nothing much was done on the 8th except that the attack was carried on in the same half-hearted manner. Meanwhile the 13th Division on our right, and the Anzac Division on their right again, were heavily engaged, and had actually reached the summit of Chunuk Bair, the Turks holding one side of the summit while New Zealanders held the opposite side. These New Zealanders were eventually shelled off by our own guns, and of this New Zealand Battalion only three survivors returned.

On the morning of August 9th at 4.45 a.m. the order for a general advance was received and we all advanced to the

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attack. Our Battalion advanced in the gap between Damak-jelik Bair and Yilghin Burnu towards the Chocolate Hill, or, to give it its correct name, Ismail Oglu Tepe.

The country over which the line allotted to the Battalion stretched was covered with scrubby undergrowth, with here and there patches of former cultivation and two orchards. Rough narrow paths ran in many directions.

B Company under Capt. R. D. Squires and C Company under Capt. C. D. Randall moved forward in the first line. Lieut. Piper on the right of B Company and 2nd Lieut. Allpass on the left of C knew the points upon which the flanks of the line of defence of the Battalion were to rest. As had been anticipated, once the position was reached a third company was required to occupy it completely, and A Company, under Capt. G. F. Chambers, was sent forward for this purpose. D Company, under Major A. S. Murray, was kept in reserve.

By 8 a.m. a satisfactory line of defence had been taken up at the cost of 8 Officers and 150 rank and file, the Battalion having met a withering fire from enemy concealed in the scrubby undergrowth.

At about 3 p.m. the Turks attacked and got in between A and B Companies on the right. By this time the sum total of Officers in these two companies was two 2nd Lieutenants.

Lt.-Col. L. A. Bosanquet, mobilising all possible signallers, runners, servants, etc., went forward, and, counter attacking, succeeded in beating off the Turks and bringing off an orderly retirement of the Battalion to a much more secure and better-placed position in the dry bed of a river 400 yards in rear of the Battalion's original position.

By this time 7 Officers had been killed, 11 wounded, including the Colonel, and 1 missing, and the strength of the Battalion in rank and file reduced to about 300.

At 5 p.m. the 1/1st Herefords came up to reinforce the Battalion. They arrived half Battalion strong as they had been badly shelled, they said, on the way up, the other half Battalion therefore remaining in the Salt Lake trenches which the Sherwood Foresters had vacated that morning.

When dark the Herefords took over the right of the line, and the remnants of the two companies thus released were formed into a reserve. At midnight the Herefords were

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withdrawn, being required for an attack the following morning. The right of the line was therefore taken over by the "reserve" under command of the Adjutant, Capt. F. F. Loyd. Between the right flank of the Battalion and the left flank of the South Wales Borderers (13th Div.) there was an absolutely unavoidable gap of a mile. Altogether a pleasant position on a three days' empty stomach.

There was some desultory fighting during the night, luckily no concentrated attack.

Note I

On March 27th, 1916, Sir Ian Hamilton published a despatch supplementary to that of December 11th, 1195, in which he said :—

"The 9th (Service) Battalion The Sherwood Foresters had constantly maintained stout hearts and a soldierly spirit in despite of the heavy losses they had suffered when carrying out their costly duty of closing the big gap between the left of the Anzac troops and Chocolate Hill from the 8th to 14th August. On August 21st this same Battalion, together with 6th (Service) Battalion The Lincolnshire Regiment, displayed a vigorous initiative, combined with very steady discipline, during the attack on Ismail Oglu Tepe."

Note II

The present Duke of Atholl, then Lord Tullibardine, found the body of Col. Bosanquet some time after the attack of August 21st, and in a letter on the subject wrote thus :—

"He was lying a few yards in front of his men, who were in perfect alignment with never a back turned, a few yards from the Turkish trenches."

The following Officers landed at Suvla Bay August 6th with 9th (Service) Battalion The Sherwood Foresters :—

Lt.-Col. L. A. Bosanquet	Wounded August 9th ; killed 21st.
Major J. G. Blackburne.	Killed August 21st.
Major A. S. Murray .	Wounded August 9th.
Capt. R. D. Squires .	Killed August 9th.
„ H. L. B. Mills .	Wounded August 9th.

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Capt. C. D. Randall	Killed August 9th.
,, T. B. Black	Killed August 9th.
Lieut. E. D. Basden	Wounded August 9th.
,, S. H. Piper	Wounded August 9th.
,, W. C. Mayo	Killed August 9th.
,, A. G. Wills	Killed August 9th.
,, J. F. M. Hind	Wounded August 9th.
,, A. E. Scothern	Wounded August 9th.
,, H. P. Carey	Killed August 9th.
2nd Lieut. R. J. Nicholls	Wounded August 9th.
,, W. West	Killed August 9th. (This Officer had been wounded previously while with the Battalion at Cape Helles.)
,, E. T. Allpass	Killed August 21st.
,, C. E. Scott	Wounded August 9th.
,, F. C. Brown	Killed August 9th.
,, E. H. Marsh	Wounded.
,, J. C. Harrison	Wounded August 10th.
Capt. & Adjt. F. F. Loyd	Wounded August 10th.
Lieut. & Qmr. A. Ewin	Killed August 11th.
Med. Officer Lieut. Carr.	

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XII

THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OR NARRATIVE OF A SOLDIER

PART II

VITTORIA

DURING the winter, our army received a great accession of strength, by numerous reinforcements from Britain; while every attention was paid to recruit and reorganize the army after the fatigues of the last campaign. . . . The commencement of the month of May, 1813, saw our army in high spirits, and completely equipped for the arduous campaign, which was now about to open. We were abundantly supplied with every necessity and comfort that in the nature of things could be expected. Tents were also provided for the whole army, which were a great convenience, and of infinite service on many occasions. All things being in readiness, our Regiment, on the 16th, in conjunction with the rest of the army, left its cantonments, in order once more to try its fortune in Spain.

Having crossed the Douro in boats, near the Portuguese frontier, our army issued from the deep valleys of that kingdom. The enemy retreated with the utmost expedition by Valladolid, in the direction of Burgos. . . . On June 16th our whole army crossed the Ebro at Quintana; the French continuing to fall back in the direction of Vittoria, at which place they, on the 20th, took up a strong position, determined to try the fate of a general engagement. But long ere we reached that point we were much in want of provisions, being several days on half allowance of bread, which was not very agreeable to men on a fatiguing march during the day, and encamped at night. The country had been exhausted by the enemy

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during their retreat, so that no hopes could be entertained of a supply in that quarter; while our prospects in regard to the stores that were following us, were equally dark. By the 16th, our stores being completely exhausted, we had to subsist on what we could pick up in the fields where we encamped. The bean fields, which were very numerous in that part of the country, were now our only resource. The stalks were torn up by the roots, and carried in armfuls by our men to the camp, but not having come to maturity, nor indeed half grown, the hulls, leaves, and tender tops of the straw, were boiled and devoured with the greatest avidity. Such was our fare for five days preceding the Battle of Vittoria.

On the 21st, at an early hour, our Division commenced the march and, proceeding along the road two leagues, we afterwards filed to the right and ascended a height, from the summit of which we had an extensive view of the valley of the Zadora. It lay immediately in our front, intersected with cornfields and vineyards, and shaded with many smiling villages, conspicuously among which stood the town of Vittoria, situated some miles to our left. The valley appeared about three miles broad in front, but extended to a much greater breadth on our left, and was bounded on the opposite side by a chain of hills of considerable height, on which were drawn up in battle array the legions of France. The dark, deep and rapid Zadora flowed along the bottom of the heights they occupied, which were fortified with breastworks and redoubts, and strongly lined with cannon; while a broad and level plain intervened between the contending hosts. . . . Notwithstanding all these formidable obstacles, it was determined by the Commander-in-Chief immediately to commence the attack. Being ordered to move forward, we descended the heights and advanced across the plain in the direction of the enemy. On gaining the river-side, it was found unfordable, by reason of the strength of the current, and the depth of water. This was a very unfortunate circumstance, for we were now sorely galled by the enemy's cannon shot from the heights, and annoyed by the fire of their light troops stationed on the opposite bank. We then moved to a bridge, some hundred yards higher up, but which was found barricaded with wood. From an isolated hill in front of the

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chain of heights, and about 200 yards from the bridge, the enemy kept up a heavy cannonade, mowing down our ranks, and literally making lanes through our columns. The bridge being found impassable, to ford the river was once more attempted; but all our efforts in this proving of no avail, orders were given to counter-march, and force the bridge. Being hemmed in between a high thorn hedge and the end of the bridge, we had not space left for this evolution, so that the column got into confusion. This was a dreadful moment. From the enemy's cannon the shot flew quick, our men fell fast, and nothing less than total destruction seemed inevitable, when a round shot from the French struck the barricading, and threw the planks of which it was composed to a considerable distance. Our troops, like lions pursuing their prey, immediately rushed on the bridge, and without any orders being given, cheering as they went, flew up the road, climbed the height, and neither stopped nor stayed until they were on the summit and in possession of the enemy's redoubt, who, in their flight, left behind four pieces of cannon, and a quantity of arms and ammunition. . . .

A short time previous to the flight of the enemy, in a charge made on them by our Brigade, Colonel Ridewood, commanding our Regiment, received a wound in his left arm; but brandishing his sword over his head, he exclaimed: "Never mind this, my lads, I will lead you on to glory!" When dashing across the field, our progress was arrested by a high and close hedge, while the enemy from a neighbouring field kept up a most destructive fire upon us, by which our Brigade suffered severely. Several of our Company were killed. At this moment the balls flew as thick as hail, one of which struck my breastplate, which prevented any further injury. At the same time, my comrade, while standing conversing with me, received one in the very centre of his forehead. He fell at my feet, and expired without a groan. He was a native of Ireland, a brave soldier, and had seen much service. As I stood sorrowfully leaning over him, watching the last moments of his existence, I was pulled from behind by the belts, and on turning round, I was ordered by the Adjutant to go and assist in carrying off the Colonel. Three others being ordered on this duty, we found our gallant

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Commander apparently lifeless, stretched upon the green sward. In addition to the wound in his arm, already mentioned, a musket bullet had entered his breast, from which flowed fast a crimson stream. . . . Having taken a blanket from one of our knapsacks, we laid our expiring Commander upon it; and in the silence of grief conveyed him to a neighbouring farm-house, where a surgeon attended, who, when he had examined the wound in the breast, pronounced it mortal.

In a short time the Colonel's servant appeared, and taking charge of his master, we went to the garden, behind the house, in hopes of finding something to eat. In our search we chanced on some bee-hives, and upsetting one of them, we were immediately attacked in great force by the whole population of the kingdom we had invaded, who annoyed us considerably with their sharp and pointed weapons, and kept buzzing about our ears as thick as the French bullets had done lately. . . . While thus engaged with our new enemies, the surgeon entered the scene of action, and perceiving how we were engaged . . . he got into a rage, and vowed he would have us severely punished when he joined the Regiment, to which he ordered us to pack off instantly. This was exactly what we wanted. The afternoon of the longest day in summer was far spent, on which we had not tasted food, and for the previous five days what had fallen to our lot was but little. Now we fondly hoped that, when following our Regiment over this field, where such an abundant harvest of honour and glory had been reaped, that a crumb of biscuit or a crust of bread would fall in our way. . . .

Passing over this field of blood and carnage, we came to a number of wagons that had been left by the enemy, all loaded with provisions, which at the time was more precious than fine gold. Numbers of our men were already employed in filling their havresacks, and drinking brandy, casks of which lay about in great plenty. My associates and I were no way backward in entering the lists, when we did great justice to the viands our enemies had so plentifully provided. Having for the moment satisfied the cravings of nature, and laid up a store for the future, we left this spot, and soon after got upon the great road leading to Vittoria, from which we were then not far distant. On our way we passed a great number of

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carts and wagons, the whole heavily laden with provisions and stores. On a field to the right of the road, we perceived a number of wagons, around which the greatest noise and tumult prevailed; numbers of men were seen on the top of the carriages, tumbling to the ground whatever was on them, while others ran snatching and tearing from each other what had fallen. Our party stepped up to this scene of confusion and bustle, and found it to proceed from the "Root of all evil," which has been the cause of much riot and strife to mankind. The wagons were loaded with money, consisting of doubloons and dollars, packed up in boxes strongly hooped with iron, which the soldiers were now breaking open. A large stone being the only implement they had to effect this with, it was regarded as the key to the treasure, and as such became an object of great contention. Happy was he, and lucky was he thought, who got hold of it; yet after all, they that were thought so, seldom touched the box they had broken, it being immediately seized by those that stood around, when a most desperate scuffle and scramble ensued. In the confusion I made shift to secure 500 dollars and 90 doubloons, a sum equal to £549 sterling.

At the foot of a tree I sat down, and reckoned my gains, but found myself far from being happy. This sum, which appeared to me immense, was far beyond what my most sanguine hopes had ever anticipated. The transition from poverty to comparative wealth was too sudden. If it had been a few dollars only, I would have been at ease, nay overjoyed, and would have spent it the first opportunity; but the sum I now possessed was too great to throw away at folly's shrine, and how to dispose of it to advantage was more than I knew. To carry it with me was impossible, being too great an addition to the load I was already burdened with. Although this had been practicable, I would not have retained it long, for the very men I was amongst would have eased me of it. I knew full well the best and safest method was to send it home, but as far as I knew this was also impracticable. In fact I was in a complete labyrinth of care, and for the first, and I fear the last time in my life, I experienced the misery of being rich. . . . The braying of a mule at last aroused me from my reverie, when I sprang to my feet, somewhat startled by the

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uncouth sound. I seized the animal, which I found to be a French one, and mounting him, made the best of my way to the camp, which was a league in front of Vittoria, where I arrived long after midnight.

This night our camp exhibited a very different spectacle from what had been seen in it for some time past. Instead of the bean straw, which had been our only fare for a considerable while, the greatest abundance now prevailed, and that at the expense of the enemy. While their wagons and carts, which lay in every direction, were broken up for firewood, the blaze of which might have been seen for miles, numbers of our men who had gone back to the scene of action, now returned, driving before them herds of oxen and flocks of sheep, while others came galloping on, mounted on horses and mules, leading others behind them, heavily laden with spoil. On the forenoon of next day, the Division decamped, and followed the route of the enemy, who fled in the direction of Pampeluna, closely pursued by our light troops. We had not proceeded above a league on the road, when the Division was halted, and the men ordered to open their knapsacks, which were immediately searched, and all the money found in them seized upon by our rulers, without asking any questions concerning how, where, or when it was got. Thus was all my treasure lost, as suddenly and unexpectedly as I had found it; and whatever trouble and care it had cost me, while in possession of it, I felt no abatement of uneasiness when deprived of it. In fact I considered the affair as a most flagrant act of injustice, an extension of arbitrary power, that robbed me of what I conceived to be justly my own. . . .

When about to move from the spot, where this licensed and general robbery was committed, an order was given for a number of men to be sent to Vittoria, in order to do the duty in that town, until such time as the Spanish troops would arrive, and relieve them. Thirty men from each Regiment of the Division were ordered for this affair, and the first for duty being taken, I was included in the number. We were immediately sent to our destination, which was two leagues distant. Our route lay along the road which the enemy in their flight had taken the preceding evening. It was now

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blocked up by cannon, ammunition wagons, and other carriages, which they had abandoned in terror, and by which we now encountered considerable difficulty in passing. On entering the town we remained on the streets while arrangements were making concerning our quarters, during which we experienced a most hearty welcome from the inhabitants, who, assembling round us, displayed the greatest enthusiasm, and rent the air with shouts of "Viva los Engleses." This burst of joyful mirth and gladness formed a striking contrast with the desolation and ruin that prevailed in the place, everything bearing the marks of recent warfare. Many of the houses were defaced; what was once the enemy's baggage still lay and obstructed the passage in the streets, where were strewed many of their slain, on which the Spaniards vented their fury and revenge by mangling the lifeless and inanimate bodies. Having been two hours in the midst of this noise and tumult, we were lodged in an old barrack, which so recently as the day previous had been occupied by the French. We were in a short time joined by numerous detachments from the different Divisions of the Army, the whole placed under the command of that eccentric character Major B., who belonged to a distinguished Regiment of Fusiliers.

Many humorous anecdotes and blunders could be given of this meritorious and gallant officer, but I shall confine myself to the relating of a mistake that he made, when but a few days in command at Vittoria. Two men, belonging to the garrison, having committed some venial trespass, were confined by order of the Commandant, who swore in his ire he would make an example by punishing them severely next morning. In the interim, however, it so happened that one of the prisoners was found to be innocent of the crime imputed to him, when the worthy Major relented, and resolved that the innocent man should be relieved from durance vile in the morning. Accordingly, next day at parade, the prisoners being brought out, our Commander harangued the man that he supposed guilty, on the heinous and aggravated nature of his crime; and getting into a passion, without having patience to wait on the formalities of a court, he resolved to have the culprit punished through the more summary medium of the Provost-Marshal, who was immediately ordered to

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proceed with the punishment. The man accordingly received his quota, which was several dozen of lashes, and was then ordered to be taken down by the good Commandant, who, turning to the other prisoner, was pleased to say, that, understanding he was innocent, he forgave him; but the Provost, knowing how matters stood, said it was the guiltless man who had been already punished—the worthy Major, with the greatest nonchalance, observed that it was all right enough, for though he was innocent then, he would be guilty some time else.

The garrison were employed several days in the melancholy duty of interring the slain, and collecting together the wreck of the French artillery and baggage, which was drawn up and arranged in the fields near Vittoria. The front line consisted entirely of howitzers, of which there were 49. In rear of these were three lines of brass cannon, the whole in most excellent order, amounting in number to 181. Next followed several hundred wagons, all loaded with ammunition, 36 camp forges, 52 elegant coaches, said to have belonged to General Officers; a great variety of gigs and carts, belonging to sutlers, and other followers of the army; while an amazing number of wagons closed the rear, laden with provisions, clothing, and other stores. Amongst other curiosities was a portable corn mill, carried upon a sort of carriage about the double length of a cart—the machine was turned with the hand. The above I several times enumerated as they stood in line, and may be depended upon as correct. Eight wagons, laden with money, were said to have been left on the field, five of which I can vouch for, as I both saw and counted them, and likewise carried off part of their contents.

A Division of Spanish troops having arrived, the British detachments, after a stay of fourteen days in the place, left Vittoria, in order to join the army, which was by that time on the summit of the Pyrenees. On the first day's march, owing to the extreme scorching heat of the weather, combined with the horrid stench arising from the putrid bodies of numerous horses and mules that lay dead on the road, I was seized with a loathing, attended by a violent vomiting, so that by the time we reached Salvatira, where we remained for the night, I was so sick that I was hardly able to speak,

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look, or move. Next morning I set out on the march, but not being able to keep up with the troops, I was with several others left in a small village, distant two leagues from our quarters of the preceding night.

[Pte. Brown remained in hospital for eight days, and then spent six weeks on the Lines of Communication at a village situated just half-way between Vittoria and Pampeluna. While there he received a flogging for plundering the Spaniards. He rejoined the Regiment soon afterwards at Arrascoon.]

Nivelle

The ground on which the Division encamped was an elevated spot near the head of the valley. . . . This delightful spot afforded an extensive prospect of the rich and fertile valley; while fields of luxuriant and gold-coloured maize, waved on every side, intersected with venerable orchards, which yielded amazing quantities of excellent cider, sold at a price, which in our free and happy country, would not nearly pay the excise duty. Indeed, apples were so plentiful, that the troops almost lived on them; we had them baked, boiled, and roasted; and ever after, when speaking of this spot, it was always denominated the apple camp.

I had been a few days only at this desirable situation, when the Army was put in motion, by the enemy making an attempt to relieve St. Sebastian. . . . In this affair only part of our Army was engaged. During the day, our Division, with several others, were drawn up on that chain of the Pyrenees next to France, from which we beheld the engagement, which was principally on the lower Bidassoa. There I also, and for the first time, had a most extensive view of the "sacred territory."

On the afternoon, as the troops were returning to the camp, a heavy and tremendous shower of hail overtook them, which astonished all, and confounded many who had never been afraid of showers of shot and shell. It commenced with moderation, but in a few minutes descended with appalling weight and rapidity. We were at the time marching along the summit of a high ridge, without shelter of house, hall, tree, or bush. It fell in hard pointed pieces of ice near the size of a hen egg, and again bounced from the hard and benty turf as high as our heads. For my own part, when I

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saw it get so heavy, I expected whole sheets of ice to come next; but after continuing about twenty minutes, during which the generality of the pieces that fell weighed several ounces, the sky brightened up, and the hail ceased. Some will perhaps doubt my veracity in this relation, but several of my townsmen, who were eye-witnesses of the phenomenon, and who are now at home, can vouch for the truth of what I assert.

After repeated marching and countermarching amongst these mountains, which was often very harassing, the Division encamped on the chain next to France, from which we had an extensive view of that delightful country. . . . On this elevated position we remained until the winter was far advanced, when it became indispensable, from the inclemency of the season, to find more comfortable quarters. To look for these in our rear was out of the question; therefore we had no alternative but to attack the enemy, who had of late received considerable reinforcements, and occupied a strong position in our front, which for three months they had been fortifying with great care and labour. Accordingly, long before daybreak, on the 10th of November, our troops descended from the snow-clad mountains, and trod the "sacred territory," which from their lofty encampment, they had for nearly four months beheld with anxious and impatient minds. Owing to some delay that took place, the morning was well advanced ere we reached the enemy's outworks, which were a line of forts and redoubts upon a plain. Having passed these without molestation, we moved on to the main position, which was about half a mile to the rear of these works, and situated on a height, strongly entrenched along the sides, with redoubts on the summit. . . . Dashing through the Sorre, which by the by was no great cordial on a frosty morning, and surmounting the abatis which the enemy had laid on the slope of the height on which they were posted, our troops drove them from their double row of entrenchments, and in a few minutes after established themselves in the redoubts. . . . Being driven from all their positions, the enemy commenced a retreat, and were closely pursued by our Army, by whom they were sorely annoyed the whole day. About dusk in the evening, our Division

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encamped in a wood for the night, during which the enemy abandoned all their positions and works in front of St. Jean de Luz, and retired upon Bidart, destroying all their bridges on the lower Nivelle.

Being for duty, upon reaching the camp ground, I turned out with the piquets, and was sent several hundred yards in advance of the camp, with a sergeant and 12 men, where we were posted on a road, on which the enemy had an advanced post, about 300 yards from us. On the intervening space, which might be termed debatable ground, stood a house to the right of the road, to which, when it was dark, four of us went, in order to see what could be made, or, in other words, to rob the house. On arriving at the door, we found it open, and without hesitation walked into the first house I had been in since I had entered France, but found it abandoned by the inhabitants, and quite dark. In groping around we found a lamp, with a wick and some oil, which we contrived to light at a few embers which were still glowing on the hearth. Being thus enabled to see about us, we immediately set to work. With the aid of a hatchet, a large chest was soon broken open, where we found a ham and a half of bacon, a small bag containing about a stone weight of flour, and two large loaves, of the size they are generally made in the south of France, which is from 60 to 70 lbs. weight. This was a great prize, the like of which none of us had been in possession of for a long time, and we were congratulating ourselves upon our good fortune, when footsteps were heard in the passage, to which our attention was immediately attracted. A man's head was seen looking in at the door of the room. On the front of his cap was an eagle ; by which ensign we knew him to be a French soldier. With some hesitation he was by one of our party addressed in Spanish, and desired to enter, when a French Grenadier, full six feet high, presented himself, and stepping forward, was followed by four more as stout and robust as himself. For a short time we continued with a fixed look to eye each other, as if enquiring whether it was to be peace or war ; but the good Germans, as we afterwards found them to be, having looked at us and our prize, which was still lying on the floor, civilly asked if there was any more provision in the house ? We replied that we had seen none, but that we

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would assist them in searching for it, and if there was no more to be got, we would willingly share what was before them. With this they seemed to be well pleased.

After a fruitless search, we fulfilled our promise, by making an equal division of all we had got, at which the Saxons were much elated. "Well," said they, "we have now got abundance to eat; let us endeavour likewise to get something to drink, for we must not part thus dry!" Accordingly, with lamp in hand, we all proceeded to the outbuildings, where, in a place resembling a barn, we found thirteen unbroached pipes. These, however, we did not touch, but found a sufficiency of most excellent wine in an old cask that lay in a corner, with a spigot in it. Having filled a tub to the brim, we sat down on the floor, and soon got as hearty as bucks, and were all as merry and friendly as if we had been old acquaintances met after a long and painful separation. When we had emptied the tub oftener than once, we filled our canteens, which we had providently brought with us, and after shaking hands with our boon companions, they returned to their piquet, and we to ours. At daybreak our army continued the pursuit of the enemy, who retreated with precipitation in the direction of Bayonne. . . . But the weather proving unfavourable, from the incessant rains that fell, it was impossible to undertake any operations of consequence: our army was therefore put into quarters.

During this interval of repose, our Brigade was quartered in the straggling village of Orentes, where our Regiment was again cooped up in a cold, damp, and uncomfortable chapel. . . . The weather having somewhat cleared up, though the roads were still in a dreadful puddle, we were at the expiration of three weeks, once more called out to active operations. . . . December 11th was a day of peace; but on the 12th Soult . . . finding our left invulnerable, drew his whole force to his left, and attacked our right with great impetuosity, but met with a warm reception from the troops under General Hill, to whose assistance the Third, Fourth, and Sixth Divisions advanced, when the enemy was routed at all points and compelled once more to seek shelter in their entrenched camp. . . . Owing to the incessant rains that now fell, our Army was put into cantonments—our

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Regiment being quartered in the farmhouses in front of Hasparren.

About this time a robbery was committed in the Regiment, upon one of our Captains, who, one morning awakening from sleep, found his portmanteau, which he used as a pillow, had been carried away during the night from under his head. Amongst other things in it, were forty guineas in gold. His tent was immediately on the right of his Company, some of the men of which were suspected of having a hand in the affair, the whole were put under arms in marching-order, in which state they continued for two days. On the third day an order was issued by the Colonel, to level the ground on which the tents of the Regiment were pitched. Accordingly this Company of unfortunates set to work with the rest, and on turning up the floor in one of their tents, five guineas were found in the earth. This was bringing things to a point—the men of that tent only were kept under arms, who, being innocent, came to bethink themselves, and recollected that two of their tent-mates were absent, who being servants to the subalterns of the Company, had never been thought of till then. It was suggested they ought to be sent for, which being done, they were both found drunk in the camp. They were accordingly put under arms, in which situation they had not been long ere they began to quarrel with each other; and words passing between them, conceived to be evidence of their guilt, they were both committed prisoners in the quarter-guard. Being on that guard at the time they were brought in, I had an opportunity of witnessing their conduct, which was foolish in the extreme; they loaded each other with reproaches and curses; the one accused the other of having taken the portmanteau, while the other swore he had been prompted by him to take it. Being searched, a few guineas were found on both, and when asked what they had done with the remainder, they said they did not know. A man that had been drinking with them, was asked at a venture by the Sergt.-Major what he had done with the ten guineas that Kelly had given him, when he replied: "I did not get ten, I received only seven." This was enough—he was likewise confined, and in a few days after tried with his companions by a General Court-Martial. One of the two robbers, and as is often the

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case, the greatest rascal, saved his life by giving evidence against the other, who was condemned to be hung by the neck until dead; while the other poor fellow, for having the seven guineas in his possession, was sentenced to 700 lashes. Both awards were carried into execution two days after. The culprits were natives of the sister kingdom.

It must not be supposed, though in quarters, that we were at rest, or enjoying peace and comfort; it was far otherwise. Each alternate day we were on duty, nearly the one half of our number being on piquets at the outposts, which were pushed out in advance to the very teeth of the enemy, a small stream, over which a man might leap with ease, being the only boundary between our sentinels and theirs. There we stood upon the opposite banks, and conversed with as much freedom as if we had been the greatest friends, and intimately acquainted for years. Indeed, the cordiality that existed between us was very surprising and pleasing. . . . Our situation was rendered very disagreeable by the heavy rains that fell without intermission for above a month, from which some of our piquets had no shelter. I remember being one of these houseless outposts for three days successively. The piquet consisted of six men and a corporal; we were posted on the brow of a hill, where we sat like so many half-drowned rats, exposed to all the winds that blew, and the deluge of rain that continued to pour the whole time. . . .

Orthez

After a stay of nearly two months in front of Hasparren, the weather having become more moderate, our army prepared to advance. . . . The enemy then fell back upon Orthez, where they assembled their army, and took up a strong position in the neighbourhood of that town. On the morning of February 27th part of our light troops advanced, and commenced skirmishing with the enemy's advanced corps. . . . The centre and left were attacked by the Third and Sixth Divisions under General Picton. When advancing, our Brigade passed along a narrow lane directly in front of the enemy's centre, from which they kept up a heavy cannonade, by which we were sorely annoyed, and had a number killed and wounded. We dashed forward, however,

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at double quick time, and soon got under cover of the heights on which the enemy were placed. Being thus secured from the destructive fire of their cannon, our General halted, and after drawing us up in close columns by Regiments, he seemed to get into a kind of quandary, and appeared not to know well what to do. In the meantime the enemy advanced to the brow of the hill, and continued to pour volleys of musketry upon us, until the Adjutant-General, who was a most gallant officer, came galloping from the left, exclaiming, " Good God ! General Brisbane, what stand you there for, like an old woman, while the Brigade gets cut off ? Form line, and send out the 45th a skirmishing." Two Companies being left with the Colours, the remaining eight ascended the hill, but were received in such a manner as I had seldom before experienced. We were but a mere handful of men, a skirmishing party, opposed to a dense column of infantry, supported by artillery and cavalry ; the bullets flew as thick as hail, and literally tore up the ground from under our feet. Thirteen men of our Company alone fell within a few yards of each other, on the brow of the hill ; notwithstanding, our men continued to press on the enemy, who, after a dreadful conflict and carnage, gave way, when we got possession of a ditch, which we kept until the Brigade advanced in line. Our party having been reinforced by several light companies from the Division, now advanced at double quick, and giving three cheers, charged the enemy's light troops, and drove them from a ditch, in a parallel line with the one we had just left. In turning round the angle of the ditch, one of our Company, before he had time to front the enemy, received a shot in the hip, and fell on the bank, exclaiming, " Blast my limbs ! I would not have cared a damn if I had got it anywhere else, but now people will say I was running away, and got shot in the . . . !

Having repeatedly charged and been charged in turn, our party got on a height, from which we had a complete view of the dark masses of the enemy in column, one of which was advancing to the point we were on, while their officers, with hat in hand and loud huzzas, encouraged their men to advance. By this time our party was greatly diminished in number, nearly the one-half having been killed or wounded,

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and would in all probability have been obliged to give way, but a Staff-Officer came up at the critical moment and encouraged us to stand our ground, as we would be relieved in a few minutes by the troops that were advancing. Accordingly, two Brigades of the Light Division, which had hitherto been kept in reserve, formed immediately in our rear, when we retired, filing through their line, which advanced and encountered the enemy on the summit of the height, when a most desperate and sanguinary conflict ensued. Our troops, when at a distance of a very few yards, fired a volley and instantly charged, pushing with the bayonet their adversaries down hill, who fled in the greatest haste and consternation.

The enemy, being driven from all their positions, commenced a retreat, which was for some time conducted in good order. . . . Their retreat was soon converted into a ruinous and disorderly flight in which they were charged by our cavalry, making dreadful havoc amongst them. Many of their soldiers threw away their arms, and thousands were taken prisoners, besides a number of cannon. . . . The pursuit was continued until night, when our Division encamped in a field by the roadside.

This had been a day of great exertion by the greatest part of our Regiment. We had since morning been running, and leaping hedges and ditches; and for my own part, I had fired 250 rounds of ball cartridge, by which my shoulder at night was as black as coal. The consequence was, the men were so fatigued, that when encamped, they either could not, or would not pitch the tents, but threw themselves on the ground exhausted. We were, however, ordered to set them up for our own welfare, which was at last, with manifest reluctance, complied with, for few entered them, but sat or lay round the fires, although it was a keen frost. Notwithstanding the toil and peril we had been exposed to during the day, there was no bread for us at night; we were therefore obliged to put up with the carrion that was served to us for beef, which we frizzled over the smoky fire, and having swallowed it, composed ourselves to sleep on the cold frozen ground.

Next morning the bugles sounded at daylight, when I awoke, and found myself in a dreadful state with cold. I was

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so benumbed all over that I could scarcely move. . . . I looked around, and perceived numbers in the same condition. . . . At last, by a straining effort, I got upon my feet, packed my knapsack, and fell into the ranks, which were then forming up. My gaiters, which to ease my ankles I had thrown off the preceding evening, I now left behind me, they being as stiff as boards with lying in the frost all night. When about to march, the animating shout of, " Turn out for rum " was heard, which soon re-echoed from all quarters. Owing to the severity of the night, the Commander-in-Chief had been pleased to order an extra allowance of this vivifying liquor, which was accordingly received by us while standing in the ranks, and under its animating influence we marched off in pursuit of the enemy.

When we got upon the road, a most horrid spectacle presented itself. Our cavalry, on the preceding evening, had at this spot charged the already routed and flying enemy, who now lay thickly strewed on the road, which was nearly blocked up with the dead and dying. Many of them had received dreadful wounds from the British sabres. Arms, accoutrements, and baggage, lay in promiscuous heaps, or were strewed on the ground. . . .

Leaving this scene of horror and death at a rapid rate, we pursued our march along the road the enemy had taken, on which they had left marks indicative of their confusion and defeat. Quantities of arms and accoutrements lay on the way, which had been thrown away by the soldiers, many of whom were taken prisoners. From this time we daily met numbers, who had abandoned the standards, under which they had so long fought, now returning to their homes. This day the pursuit was so eager, that we halted only once, and then but a few minutes. I do not recollect of ever being so hungry as I was at that time ; the cravings of nature were so pressing that I attempted to eat some grass I found in a ditch, but it would not go down. I was therefore obliged to push on as well as I could until dark, when we encamped in a wood, where provisions were served out about midnight.

On the 29th, the Division passed the Adour by a wooden bridge, which the enemy had in part destroyed by fire. In a few days we came up with them at Vic Bigore, from which

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after a smart skirmish, they fell back upon Tarbes, a handsome town, and extremely neat and clean. As we passed through this place, the inhabitants stood on the streets, with pitchers of wine, and pressed us to drink, to which we were nothing loath. From this place every inch of ground was contested by the enemy, who destroyed all the bridges as they went along. Not a day passed without skirmishing, and some of it very severe. But all their efforts were of no avail. Soult, with his dispirited army, was compelled to retreat across the Garonne, when, owing to heavy and incessant rain, our army was put into cantonments. Our Division was quartered in a town, situated a few miles from the banks of that noble river.

Toulouse

In quarters we remained some days, which were passed by our Company, and I believe by most of the Division, in a drinking-bout, for every house in the place was a wine store. The whole of the Company were crammed into one house, scarcely sufficient to contain the one-half, which caused a deal of bustle and confusion at first. A trap-door, however, was discovered in the floor of one of the apartments, the passage of which led to a wine-vault, where, though dark and damp, the greatest number took up their abode. . . . To illumine the place, which was altogether void of light, a number of old and empty casks were broken down for fuel, and a fire kindled on the floor, which in a short time so filled the place with smoke, that it might have been deemed uninhabitable even for the lords of Pandemonium, but the lads here were proof against smoke and fire both, when wine was the prize. A fresh pipe being broached, the ruby liquor was poured forth, not into gold or silver vases, but our black tin kettles, which were filled and emptied with surprising dispatch.

After a day of even more than usual jollity, while a number were still seated round the fire regaling themselves, and others, by the potency of the liquor, lay stretched on the floor, towards midnight the swelling notes of the bugle were heard to sound, " Turn out the whole," at which great confusion and bustle ensued. Arms and accoutrements were to seek, knapsacks to pack; but numbers were incapable of doing

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either, being insensible to everything around them, and were in the hurry trampled upon and kicked about like so many old boots. The night was dark and dismal; the rain fell in torrents, under which we stood for two hours, being delayed all that time, owing to the men not turning promptly out. Having at last marched off, we proceeded along a road rendered almost impassable by the excessive rains that had fallen, through which, however, we continued to plunge until day-break, when we found ourselves on the left bank of the Garonne, opposite to, and within a short distance of the venerable city of Toulouse, around which we could perceive numerous and strong entrenchments, which the enemy had thrown up. The column having filed to the left, proceeded on a road, in a parallel line with the river, until we were about four leagues below the city, where a pontoon bridge being thrown over the river, the Division immediately passed, leaving our Regiment to protect the bridge.

The duty assigned us here was of a very harassing and fatiguing nature. The enemy, having command of the river above us, sent down large floats of wood, and boats stuck full of spears and sword blades, in order to destroy or damage the bridge, which required on our part the utmost activity and diligence to prevent during the day, at the close of which it was taken up altogether, and replaced again in the morning. Owing to the wetness of the weather, and the numerous bodies of troops that were daily and hourly passing, the ground in the vicinity was rendered a complete puddle, in which we were generally employed the whole night, in removing the boats, boards, bolts and planks, and other materials of which the bridge was composed.

April 8th, at an early hour in the evening, orders were given to take up the bridge, which was, during the night, packed upon a number of wagons, and conveyed along the right bank of the river, until within a short league of Toulouse. Next morning before marching, I had another proof of the mild discipline, and the tender regard with which we were treated by our superiors. Having been busily employed during the night, we were by daylight very fatigued, when the Provost-Marshal, chancing to pass, one of our men in a jocular manner called to his comrades to cheer up, as they

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would soon have done, for the whipper-in was come. This was sporting with the lion's paw, and was overheard by the man of stripes himself, who ordered the wit to be instantly seized, and tied up to the next tree, where for his joke he received four dozen ticklers.

Notwithstanding the toil we had undergone, we were ordered to get on our knapsacks and accompany the wagons on their route, which, when at their destination, were unloaded, and the bridge once more laid across the river, and left in charge of a party belonging to the Light Division. We then marched off and joined our Brigade, which was lying in front of Toulouse, close to the enemy's lines. When we arrived at the camp, being completely exhausted, I threw myself on the green sward, but had been only a few minutes at rest ere I was called out on fatigue. This was another bridge I was to assist in throwing over a ditch we had crossed when entering the field, in which we were encamped. I had often before seen broader ditches crossed and recrossed, without anyone having the most distant idea of throwing anything over them, but Colonel F. (Forbes), who had been some time our Commanding Officer, had got so enamoured of engineering, that he appeared determined not to leave even a single cart-rut without a bridge.

In order that the affair might be properly done, the Colonel, although a subaltern officer superintended the party, attended in person, under whose sage directions the operations were carried on. When we had laboured for two hours, he was pleased to say our work was finished there, but that there was a spot, a short way down the road, he wished something done at, and to which he ordered us to carry our tools. At this intimation he was eyed with no very favourable aspect by the party, who, I believe, would rather have launched the tools at his head than carried them anywhere else; but as that might have been attended with danger, and there being no alternative, we complied with the order, by proceeding to the spot without delay—to which we were attended, or rather led by the Aberdonian himself. (Colonel F. was a native of Aberdeenshire.) The place pointed out by our worthy leader, was a small narrow stream, scarcely ankle deep, over which, in his mania, he wished a bridge. As such gentlemen's wishes

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generally amount to positive orders, we commenced; and under his directions, by sunset, had finished a passage, which he was pleased to pronounce sufficient for the whole army to pass; but it was neither used by the army nor himself, as will be more fully seen hereafter.

After a few hours of sound repose, we were early next morning aroused by our bugles, and in short time attacked the French outposts, who fell back upon the main body, with which we immediately came in contact. While advancing, the right flank of the Division, which swept along the right bank of the Garonne, was threatened by a body of the enemy, to oppose whom three Companies of our Regiment, together with three of the 74th, and three of the 60th German Rifles, were detached. A smart encounter ensued, in which the enemy were worsted, and compelled to retire to the shelter of some houses, from which they were immediately driven in gallant style by our party. From these houses we kept up a brisk fire upon the enemy, who had taken possession of some neighbouring buildings. In a small apartment, along with five others, I was busily engaged firing from the only window that faced the enemy, when an explosion took place in the room. We were immediately enveloped in smoke, and judging it to be caused by a shell, everyone made for the door; but owing to the haste of the two foremost, who stuck in the doorway, it was completely jammed up, detaining the others inside, who momentarily expected the bomb to burst and blow up the house. Upon getting outside, it was discovered that instead of a shell, it was my old friend David, the glutton, of gormandizing memory, formerly mentioned, that was the sole cause and only sufferer in this affray. David, wishing to be as smart as his comrades, had lodged in his cap the most of his ammunition, which coming in contact with the flash of his pan, had blown off, and reduced his headgear to a cinder, and scorched his cranium to such a degree that it resembled an old ram's when singed by a cook.

Having charged repeatedly, and dislodged the enemy from house to house, they were at last driven back to the environs of the city, where they assembled in great force at a large house surrounded by a turf wall, which they strongly lined with musketry, and where I believe they thought themselves

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secure; but after firing some time from some buildings in the vicinity, we stormed and carried their mud fortress, which they evacuated in great haste and confusion, leaving behind them several barrels of ammunition, and a number of knapsacks. By this charge it was not only proposed to dislodge the enemy from their stronghold, but even to intercept them in their flight from it. With this in view we ran past the house, but were stopped short in our career by a canal, which was not perceived until we were on its banks. The enemy passed over on boards, which they withdrew on reaching the opposite side, and commenced firing from two houses situated on the margin. Perceiving the dilemma we were placed in, the majority of our party returned to the house the enemy had just abandoned, when a tremendous fire commenced on both sides. A number of our men remained in the hollow formed by a lock on the canal, that was exactly between the houses. Amongst the latter was my comrade, William Reeves, a young English boy who had lately joined the Regiment, with a draft from England. This being only the second engagement he had been in, and understanding he was wounded, I was determined although at the risk of my life, to extricate him from his perilous situation. Intent on this, I went to the end of the house, by the corner of which the bullets were flying as thick as hail, and where a number of our Officers were endeavouring to persuade a corporal of our Regiment to go down and bring up the men from the hollow, to which the poor fellow seemed very unwilling, but at last consented to go, when he had been both cajoled and threatened. Laying off his knapsack, he sprang over the bank, on which I immediately followed, and found poor Billy stretched on the ground, extremely sick, from the loss of blood and heat of the sun. A ball had penetrated through his left arm, which was shattered and broken. Unbuckling the slings of his knapsack, I placed it upon the top of my own, and cutting his belts with my knife, " Billy," says I, "we will leave these trappings here, as you will never use such harness again; so run for your life ! " which he manfully did, and got over the bank without further injury. I now asked the corporal, whom I had followed, if he was ready to go, but shaking his head, with a sorrowful countenance, he said he

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had been wounded in the heel as he came over the bank, and could not return. Poor fellow, it was worse with him than he even then anticipated. In a few days after he died with his jaws locked.

When returned to the house, I found Billy, whose wound I bound with a bandage, which I tore from a shirt, and made a sling for his arm with the remainder. After regaling ourselves with some wine, abundance of which was in the house, I filled his canteen with the precious liquor, and putting into his havresack a loaf of bread I had found in the garden, I bade him good-bye and God bless him. He went to the rear where, in all probability, he would meet with a surgeon who would dress his wound. I have never seen him since, but I understand, however, he was discharged some time after, in England, with a pension. . . .

Long ere the action was ended, there was ample time and opportunity for everyone to display their valour and prowess, for independent of the heavy fire that rolled on from morning till night, several attempts were made by our party to pass the canal, all of which, notwithstanding the valour and courage displayed, proved abortive. On being repulsed in one of these charges, and when all that were able had returned to the house, a German, belonging to the 60th Rifles, remained on the beam, or lever of the canal lock, from which he fired several shots. The firing ceased on both sides, and for a few seconds the attention of friend and foe was riveted on the author of this "deed of high daring." He, however, fell a victim to his temerity; he received a shot in his breast, and fell into the canal. This action I think was more strongly tinctured with frenzy than courage.

While affairs were thus situated on the right, the Division on our left, by corresponding movements, arrived in front of the canal at the same time with our party, where their progress was arrested by the enemy, who in great force occupied a fort that surmounted a bridge [Bridge of Jumeaux] on the canal. Having reconnoitred the position, General Picton ordered the place to be stormed by our Regiment, which accordingly formed up, and with three cheers issued from the wood in which the Division was posted. The assailants, under a most galling fire of round shot and

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musketry, advanced with great spirit and intrepidity, and gained the outer ditch, but being deficient in ladders, it was found impracticable to take the place. The General then ordered a retreat, which was effected with great loss to the Regiment. In this affair Colonel F. lost his life by a cannon ball, which struck him on the back when retiring, and literally went through his body. It was for some time a matter of speculation with the men, whether the Aberdonian would avail himself of old Charon's boat, or throw a bridge over the Styx? The only man in the Regiment that entered the fort, was a gay, light-hearted Irishman, who had, in his time, received some thousands of lashes in the service. Pat Conner was what is called a tight clean soldier, generally steady when without money, but if possessed of a single tenpenny (franc), could not withstand the allurements of women and wine, which placed him sometimes in very awkward circumstances, and for which he had often embraced the three twin sisters (triangles). But though Pat loved a row in a wineshop, he was a good soldier, and on this occasion proved himself a hero. On gaining the glacis, which none did but himself, he made a fair and clean leap into the interior of the fort, plunging amongst the bristling bayonets of his enemies, and shouting as he went, "Hurra! ye b——s, hurra!" But more of Pat anon.

[Unfortunately Pat Conner does not appear in the Peninsular Medal Roll of the 45th. Presumably he must have died before 1847. There is a William Conner, but he received no clasp later than Pyrenees.]

Night coming on at last put an end to the contest. Our party having been unable to force the canal, remained until evening in the houses they had occupied the greatest part of the day, still keeping up a heavy fire upon the enemy who, when it was dusk, sent out a flag of truce with an officer, accompanied by a trumpeter, who sounding a parley, the firing immediately ceased on both sides. The object of this mission was to crave a cessation of hostilities for the night, which was no sooner granted than the French soldiers came leaping over the lock, with baskets of bread, and abundance of brandy and wine, of which we willingly partook on the bank of the canal, where, with the utmost confidence and

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cordiality, we got seated promiscuously. . . . But our Officers thought or at least acted otherwise, for they in a short time recalled us, and prohibited all further intercourse with the enemy. Thus terminated the Battle of Toulouse, fought on the 10th of April, being Easter Sunday; whether it was the work of necessity or mercy, I will leave the reader to determine. It was, however, severe work for the parties concerned.

After it was dark, our Division was withdrawn, and encamped for the night at the distance of half a mile from the scene of action, and next morning got into quarters in several detached houses in the vicinity. On the evening of the same day, Soult, conceiving himself in danger of being surrounded, abandoned Toulouse, and retreated during the night, in pursuit of whom our army advanced next morning.

When passing through Toulouse, Pat Conner was found drunk and happy, standing, or rather lying up against the door of a wine-house. When asked how he had escaped with his life from the French—"wid my life!" exclaimed Pat, "why, the Francees never offered to lay a durty finger on me!" The truth of the matter was this—the enemy, admiring his courage and intrepidity, saved his life by taking him prisoner; and he had now eluded the vigilance of his guard during the bustle occasioned by his captors leaving Toulouse, where he remained until found by his countrymen.

When two leagues in front of Toulouse, our attention was highly excited by what appeared to us a wonderful phenomenon —a carriage, containing two French Officers, came furiously past, escorted by parties of British and French Dragoons, who, as they went along, imparted to our men the news of peace having been established at Paris, and that they were then on their way to Headquarters to communicate the glad tidings to our Commander-in-Chief. This vivifying intelligence, like lightning, flew from rank to rank, but no one dared to credit the wondrous tale. . . . It was not until our march was actually countermanded, and the transactions which had taken place at Paris, were communicated to us through the medium of a General Order, that we could give implicit credence to the affair. . . .

Having counter-marched, we retraced our steps through Toulouse, and next day the Brigade was put into cantonments

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at Grenade, where indeed, we enjoyed the sweets of peace. Our duty was light and pleasant, and provisions abundant and cheap; bread sold at two sous (one penny) per pound. Wine, in taverns, at half as much more per bottle, but sold in cellars a deal cheaper. There I have purchased four canteens full, which was eight quarts, for a demi-franc, which was the cost of a bottle of brandy. Beef and mutton were at the same rate per pound, weighing forty ounces, which reduced it to twopence per pound English. Fowls were extremely plentiful, consequently cheap. A good goose sold for a franc, or tenpence British currency, and all other articles of provision equally cheap. The town was pleasantly situated near the Garonne, and of considerable extent, containing from five or six thousand inhabitants, who were kind, hospitable and friendly. Such was Grenade, which on account of the kind treatment I experienced from several of its inhabitants, I shall ever remember with the most lively gratitude and pleasure. . . .

Having passed five weeks very pleasantly in this place, the Regiment received the route for the coast preparatory to embarkation. This march extended to about 90 miles, and was the most agreeable I ever had. The weather was good, the roads were excellent, and led through a most charming country. After the day's march, comfortable quarters awaited us at night, with a kind host, and kinder hostess, all of which tended to exhilarate our spirits, and render us cheerful and gay. Passing Beaumont, Bordeaux, and other considerable cities and towns, we at last encamped on a plain about seven miles distant from the latter, where with the greatest part of the army, we were for the last time reviewed by the Marquis of Wellington. Having remained at this encampment fourteen days, the Regiment embarked on board a transport at Poliack (? Pauillac), a small port on the Garonne.

Ireland

After a tedious passage of twenty-one days, in which nothing material occurred, we cast anchor in the Cove of Cork, and next day landed with palpitating hearts and fluttering spirits. But what a contrast did the appearance of the Regiment form, to that which it made, but six years

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antecedent, when embarking at this very port for Portugal. Then it consisted of 1100 stout young men, glowing with health and animated with all the vigour of youth. Now, less than 300 formed the skeleton ranks, few of whom but had been wounded, many oftener than once, and none that were not more or less worn with fatigue and disease. But this was not all; while on service we had received drafts, or reinforcements, to the amount of 2200 from the 2nd Battalion, making in all 3300, all of whom had disappeared, except the 300 veterans who now stood on the margin of Erin's green isle.

From the Cove we marched to the City of Cork, where we remained a month in the new barracks, and were then fitted out with clothing, and with what else we were deficient of. We had eight days' leave given to spend our arrears of pay, which with many amounted to a considerable sum for a soldier. All of which was faithfully and justly paid; for, however a man may be treated in other respects in the army, he is sure of being paid to the last farthing.

Having got the route for Enniskillen, which is thirteen days' march from Cork, we left that city, and passing Fermoy, Mitchelstown, Cashel, and Roscrea, we arrived at Tullamore, where by the upsetting of a kettle full of boiling water, I had one of my legs sorely scalded; in consequence of which, being unable to proceed with the Regiment, I was left in the hospital of the Brecknockshire Militia. After remaining there for three weeks, being perfectly recovered, I was discharged from hospital, and served with eight days' pay which was to carry me to the Regiment.

In Enniskillen the Regiment remained five months, which time, though it was winter, passed on very pleasantly. Provisions were cheap, and turf was served in abundance for fuel, enabling us to keep on good fires, at which we passed the long winter evenings in an agreeable and comfortable manner, very different from that we had been accustomed to for some years past. We at last got the route for Belfast, when we left Enniskillen during a keen frost. At Maguire's Bridge, which was our first stage, I was with three more quartered in a public-house. In the room where we slept we found hid in some straw, a cask of whisky, which was a

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temptation we were not inclined to withstand. Accordingly, the morning found us on the march, with our canteens and kettles full of the liquor, with which we treated our comrades and acquaintances, who in a short time were as deeply intoxicated as ourselves. For my own part I was so much so, that I threw away my arms, and refused to march; indeed, in a short time I was quite unable, and got so stupid that I could not stand on my feet. I was therefore left lying insensible on the road. On recovering my senses I found myself sitting in a small cabin, eating, or rather worrying, a potful of potatoes which stood on the hearth before me. Three of my comrades lay asleep on the floor, while a N.C.O., who had been left to take charge of us, sat by the fire. In a short time the snorers were roused, when we set forward; but we had many a sore and clumsy fall before reaching Clogher, our quarters for the night, where we were ordered on extra guard, by way of expiation for our sins.

On reaching Belfast we were put into barracks, and in a short time our Company was sent on detachment to Carrickfergus, where I remained four months. The Regiment was then ordered to Dublin, in which city I was but three weeks when I received my discharge, my time of service being expired. The same day I engaged for my passage in a vessel bound for Irvine, but being detained in port by contrary winds, after three days' delay, I left Dublin for Donaghadee, with only 4s. 6d. in my pocket, having previously purchased clothes with what money I had. Arriving at Donaghadee my funds were reduced to 2s., which I paid for my passage to Port Patrick, where, after all my toils and dangers, I landed in my own dear country, 72 miles from home without a halfpenny. At Girvan I was under the necessity of selling a pair of stockings to procure a supper, and next day reached home with a palpitating heart.

Epilogue

Thus I noted down the most prominent occurrences of my early life, and fought my battles o'er again. Not that I think them any way peculiar, for I am well aware that numbers of my countrymen, and even many of my townsmen, have felt and suffered more in the service of their country, and gone

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through a greater variety of surprising adventures than has been here related. Neither is it from vanity, but from pure vexation of spirit that I have gone over my old ground, for I feel grieved, deeply grieved, for my former folly, and inconsiderate thoughtlessness. My youthful imprudence has launched me into a sea of troubles—an ocean of misery has engulfed me, from which I will never be able to emerge on this side of time. When I received my discharge I fondly hoped that all my hardships were at an end, but for some time prior to that event, a disease, an enervating and an incurable disease had seized me, which has since, and ever will prey upon, and unman me. This malign disorder was but in its infancy when I left the service, and having no idea of what was the matter, I came away without my ailment being known, else I make no doubt but I would have been provided for in my infirmity. I therefore can blame none but myself. It is this that galls and confounds me. . . .

It is now at this period (1829), thirteen long years since I left the service, which time has been filled up with a series of losses, crosses, and disappointments. Yet, for these eleven years past, I have had great and almost infinite consolation, which spring from an alliance with a most deserving and amiable woman, who is indeed my better half.

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XIII

GRAVES OF THE 45TH WHO DIED NEARLY A HUNDRED YEARS AGO

TOWARDS the end of 1921 Mrs. Sampson, the wife of the Hon. Justice Sampson of Grahamstown, South Africa, wrote to Colonels of regiments concerned pointing out that several of the graves of officers and soldiers who had fallen in the earlier Kaffir wars of last century (in which the 45th bore a distinguished part) had fallen into a sad state of disrepair, several of them being unrecognisable.

Mrs. Sampson described how she had already collected quite a considerable sum of money from British colonists, and how she hoped to increase her fund so as not only to be able to repair the graves which could still be recognised, but also to erect a small cenotaph in memory of unknown soldiers buried at Grahamstown. Amongst others she appealed to our Colonel. In response Gen. Sir Horace Smith-Dorrien wrote asking (*a*) the number of graves of the Regiment; (*b*) the amount required to put them in order; (*c*) the amount she expected to collect from each Regiment; and received the following reply:—

DEAR SIR, *May 30th*, 1922.

I must thank you for your letter of April 15th, 1922, on the subject of the graves of the officers and men of the 45th Regiment (there are no 95th traceable) in the Old Cemetery at Grahamstown (the centre of the early Kaffir wars), and for your kind appreciation of my efforts to restore and preserve them. I think I ought to make it clear to you that I have only undertaken this work in regard to those who fell in the early Kaffir wars, and that the Guild of Loyal Women was instituted for the care of the graves of those who fell in the Boer War. Very many of the military graves in Grahams-

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town have quite disappeared, the graves being built over. Lord Methuen was instrumental in saving a few in the Public Gardens (one a Waterloo man), and the rest are in the old cemetery which I am trying to put in order. They were fast falling into ruin. I enclose two printed slips which will give you fuller information about them and the work. There are twenty regiments represented in the cemetery. About £600 has been subscribed in South Africa for their restoration and future maintenance, but this sum proved not nearly sufficient to put the cemetery in order and provide a permanent caretaker as well.

I was therefore compelled, very unwillingly, to ask the regiments concerned for some assistance. The response has seemed most generous when it is considered what heavy calls for help and the exercise of esprit de corps the Army is sustaining at the present moment, but we are still short by some £200, which I still hope to obtain from those who should remember what we in South Africa owe to our soldiers.

But any donation which the 45th may feel able to send will be most gratefully received, though I quite appreciate the many calls upon it at the present time. You will understand that a great deal more is wanted than the repair of individual graves, for each is bound up in the care of the whole. The number of officers and men of each regiment are not great, but there are twenty regiments concerned in the general care.

In the case of the 45th there are only two recognisable graves, those of Sergt. Edward Featherstone, January, 1853, and Pte. H. Dunn, December, 1859, whose stone was discovered buried in the ground. You will therefore see that I cannot give an exact reply to your questions (*a*) and (*b*). With regard to question (*c*), the matter must be left entirely to the discretion of the Battalion. Other regiments have varied between £5 and £15 in their donations.

I must thank you again for your courteous reply to my letter.

Faithfully yours,

MILDRED A. SAMPSON,

Director *pro tem.* of Work to the Cemetery Board.

P.S. I see the Army List dates for the 45th Regiment in South Africa are only 1846–7, perhaps Regimental History will

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saw it get so heavy, I expected whole sheets of ice to come next; but after continuing about twenty minutes, during which the generality of the pieces that fell weighed several ounces, the sky brightened up, and the hail ceased. Some will perhaps doubt my veracity in this relation, but several of my townsmen, who were eye-witnesses of the phenomenon, and who are now at home, can vouch for the truth of what I assert.

After repeated marching and countermarching amongst these mountains, which was often very harassing, the Division encamped on the chain next to France, from which we had an extensive view of that delightful country. . . . On this elevated position we remained until the winter was far advanced, when it became indispensable, from the inclemency of the season, to find more comfortable quarters. To look for these in our rear was out of the question; therefore we had no alternative but to attack the enemy, who had of late received considerable reinforcements, and occupied a strong position in our front, which for three months they had been fortifying with great care and labour. Accordingly, long before daybreak, on the 10th of November, our troops descended from the snow-clad mountains, and trod the "sacred territory," which from their lofty encampment, they had for nearly four months beheld with anxious and impatient minds. Owing to some delay that took place, the morning was well advanced ere we reached the enemy's outworks, which were a line of forts and redoubts upon a plain. Having passed these without molestation, we moved on to the main position, which was about half a mile to the rear of these works, and situated on a height, strongly entrenched along the sides, with redoubts on the summit. . . . Dashing through the Sorre, which by the by was no great cordial on a frosty morning, and surmounting the abatis which the enemy had laid on the slope of the height on which they were posted, our troops drove them from their double row of entrenchments, and in a few minutes after established themselves in the redoubts. . . . Being driven from all their positions, the enemy commenced a retreat, and were closely pursued by our Army, by whom they were sorely annoyed the whole day. About dusk in the evening, our Division

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encamped in a wood for the night, during which the enemy abandoned all their positions and works in front of St. Jean de Luz, and retired upon Bidart, destroying all their bridges on the lower Nivelle.

Being for duty, upon reaching the camp ground, I turned out with the piquets, and was sent several hundred yards in advance of the camp, with a sergeant and 12 men, where we were posted on a road, on which the enemy had an advanced post, about 300 yards from us. On the intervening space, which might be termed debatable ground, stood a house to the right of the road, to which, when it was dark, four of us went, in order to see what could be made, or, in other words, to rob the house. On arriving at the door, we found it open, and without hesitation walked into the first house I had been in since I had entered France, but found it abandoned by the inhabitants, and quite dark. In groping around we found a lamp, with a wick and some oil, which we contrived to light at a few embers which were still glowing on the hearth. Being thus enabled to see about us, we immediately set to work. With the aid of a hatchet, a large chest was soon broken open, where we found a ham and a half of bacon, a small bag containing about a stone weight of flour, and two large loaves, of the size they are generally made in the south of France, which is from 60 to 70 lbs. weight. This was a great prize, the like of which none of us had been in possession of for a long time, and we were congratulating ourselves upon our good fortune, when footsteps were heard in the passage, to which our attention was immediately attracted. A man's head was seen looking in at the door of the room. On the front of his cap was an eagle; by which ensign we knew him to be a French soldier. With some hesitation he was by one of our party addressed in Spanish, and desired to enter, when a French Grenadier, full six feet high, presented himself, and stepping forward, was followed by four more as stout and robust as himself. For a short time we continued with a fixed look to eye each other, as if enquiring whether it was to be peace or war; but the good Germans, as we afterwards found them to be, having looked at us and our prize, which was still lying on the floor, civilly asked if there was any more provision in the house? We replied that we had seen none, but that we

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would assist them in searching for it, and if there was no more to be got, we would willingly share what was before them. With this they seemed to be well pleased.

After a fruitless search, we fulfilled our promise, by making an equal division of all we had got, at which the Saxons were much elated. "Well," said they, "we have now got abundance to eat; let us endeavour likewise to get something to drink, for we must not part thus dry!" Accordingly, with lamp in hand, we all proceeded to the outbuildings, where, in a place resembling a barn, we found thirteen unbroached pipes. These, however, we did not touch, but found a sufficiency of most excellent wine in an old cask that lay in a corner, with a spigot in it. Having filled a tub to the brim, we sat down on the floor, and soon got as hearty as bucks, and were all as merry and friendly as if we had been old acquaintances met after a long and painful separation. When we had emptied the tub oftener than once, we filled our canteens, which we had providently brought with us, and after shaking hands with our boon companions, they returned to their piquet, and we to ours. At daybreak our army continued the pursuit of the enemy, who retreated with precipitation in the direction of Bayonne. . . . But the weather proving unfavourable, from the incessant rains that fell, it was impossible to undertake any operations of consequence: our army was therefore put into quarters.

During this interval of repose, our Brigade was quartered in the straggling village of Orentes, where our Regiment was again cooped up in a cold, damp, and uncomfortable chapel. . . . The weather having somewhat cleared up, though the roads were still in a dreadful puddle, we were at the expiration of three weeks, once more called out to active operations. . . . December 11th was a day of peace; but on the 12th Soult . . . finding our left invulnerable, drew his whole force to his left, and attacked our right with great impetuosity, but met with a warm reception from the troops under General Hill, to whose assistance the Third, Fourth, and Sixth Divisions advanced, when the enemy was routed at all points and compelled once more to seek shelter in their entrenched camp. . . . Owing to the incessant rains that now fell, our Army was put into cantonments—our

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Regiment being quartered in the farmhouses in front of Hasparren.

About this time a robbery was committed in the Regiment, upon one of our Captains, who, one morning awakening from sleep, found his portmanteau, which he used as a pillow, had been carried away during the night from under his head. Amongst other things in it, were forty guineas in gold. His tent was immediately on the right of his Company, some of the men of which were suspected of having a hand in the affair, the whole were put under arms in marching-order, in which state they continued for two days. On the third day an order was issued by the Colonel, to level the ground on which the tents of the Regiment were pitched. Accordingly this Company of unfortunates set to work with the rest, and on turning up the floor in one of their tents, five guineas were found in the earth. This was bringing things to a point—the men of that tent only were kept under arms, who, being innocent, came to bethink themselves, and recollected that two of their tent-mates were absent, who being servants to the subalterns of the Company, had never been thought of till then. It was suggested they ought to be sent for, which being done, they were both found drunk in the camp. They were accordingly put under arms, in which situation they had not been long ere they began to quarrel with each other; and words passing between them, conceived to be evidence of their guilt, they were both committed prisoners in the quarter-guard. Being on that guard at the time they were brought in, I had an opportunity of witnessing their conduct, which was foolish in the extreme; they loaded each other with reproaches and curses; the one accused the other of having taken the portmanteau, while the other swore he had been prompted by him to take it. Being searched, a few guineas were found on both, and when asked what they had done with the remainder, they said they did not know. A man that had been drinking with them, was asked at a venture by the Sergt.-Major what he had done with the ten guineas that Kelly had given him, when he replied: "I did not get ten, I received only seven." This was enough—he was likewise confined, and in a few days after tried with his companions by a General Court-Martial. One of the two robbers, and as is often the

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case, the greatest rascal, saved his life by giving evidence against the other, who was condemned to be hung by the neck until dead; while the other poor fellow, for having the seven guineas in his possession, was sentenced to 700 lashes. Both awards were carried into execution two days after. The culprits were natives of the sister kingdom.

It must not be supposed, though in quarters, that we were at rest, or enjoying peace and comfort; it was far otherwise. Each alternate day we were on duty, nearly the one half of our number being on piquets at the outposts, which were pushed out in advance to the very teeth of the enemy, a small stream, over which a man might leap with ease, being the only boundary between our sentinels and theirs. There we stood upon the opposite banks, and conversed with as much freedom as if we had been the greatest friends, and intimately acquainted for years. Indeed, the cordiality that existed between us was very surprising and pleasing. . . . Our situation was rendered very disagreeable by the heavy rains that fell without intermission for above a month, from which some of our piquets had no shelter. I remember being one of these houseless outposts for three days successively. The piquet consisted of six men and a corporal; we were posted on the brow of a hill, where we sat like so many half-drowned rats, exposed to all the winds that blew, and the deluge of rain that continued to pour the whole time. . . .

Orthez

After a stay of nearly two months in front of Hasparren, the weather having become more moderate, our army prepared to advance. . . . The enemy then fell back upon Orthez, where they assembled their army, and took up a strong position in the neighbourhood of that town. On the morning of February 27th part of our light troops advanced, and commenced skirmishing with the enemy's advanced corps. . . . The centre and left were attacked by the Third and Sixth Divisions under General Picton. When advancing, our Brigade passed along a narrow lane directly in front of the enemy's centre, from which they kept up a heavy cannonade, by which we were sorely annoyed, and had a number killed and wounded. We dashed forward, however,

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at double quick time, and soon got under cover of the heights on which the enemy were placed. Being thus secured from the destructive fire of their cannon, our General halted, and after drawing us up in close columns by Regiments, he seemed to get into a kind of quandary, and appeared not to know well what to do. In the meantime the enemy advanced to the brow of the hill, and continued to pour volleys of musketry upon us, until the Adjutant-General, who was a most gallant officer, came galloping from the left, exclaiming, "Good God! General Brisbane, what stand you there for, like an old woman, while the Brigade gets cut off? Form line, and send out the 45th a skirmishing." Two Companies being left with the Colours, the remaining eight ascended the hill, but were received in such a manner as I had seldom before experienced. We were but a mere handful of men, a skirmishing party, opposed to a dense column of infantry, supported by artillery and cavalry; the bullets flew as thick as hail, and literally tore up the ground from under our feet. Thirteen men of our Company alone fell within a few yards of each other, on the brow of the hill; notwithstanding, our men continued to press on the enemy, who, after a dreadful conflict and carnage, gave way, when we got possession of a ditch, which we kept until the Brigade advanced in line. Our party having been reinforced by several light companies from the Division, now advanced at double quick, and giving three cheers, charged the enemy's light troops, and drove them from a ditch, in a parallel line with the one we had just left. In turning round the angle of the ditch, one of our Company, before he had time to front the enemy, received a shot in the hip, and fell on the bank, exclaiming, "Blast my limbs! I would not have cared a damn if I had got it anywhere else, but now people will say I was running away, and got shot in the . . . !

Having repeatedly charged and been charged in turn, our party got on a height, from which we had a complete view of the dark masses of the enemy in column, one of which was advancing to the point we were on, while their officers, with hat in hand and loud huzzas, encouraged their men to advance. By this time our party was greatly diminished in number, nearly the one-half having been killed or wounded,

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and would in all probability have been obliged to give way, but a Staff-Officer came up at the critical moment and encouraged us to stand our ground, as we would be relieved in a few minutes by the troops that were advancing. Accordingly, two Brigades of the Light Division, which had hitherto been kept in reserve, formed immediately in our rear, when we retired, filing through their line, which advanced and encountered the enemy on the summit of the height, when a most desperate and sanguinary conflict ensued. Our troops, when at a distance of a very few yards, fired a volley and instantly charged, pushing with the bayonet their adversaries down hill, who fled in the greatest haste and consternation.

The enemy, being driven from all their positions, commenced a retreat, which was for some time conducted in good order. . . . Their retreat was soon converted into a ruinous and disorderly flight in which they were charged by our cavalry, making dreadful havoc amongst them. Many of their soldiers threw away their arms, and thousands were taken prisoners, besides a number of cannon. . . . The pursuit was continued until night, when our Division encamped in a field by the roadside.

This had been a day of great exertion by the greatest part of our Regiment. We had since morning been running, and leaping hedges and ditches; and for my own part, I had fired 250 rounds of ball cartridge, by which my shoulder at night was as black as coal. The consequence was, the men were so fatigued, that when encamped, they either could not, or would not pitch the tents, but threw themselves on the ground exhausted. We were, however, ordered to set them up for our own welfare, which was at last, with manifest reluctance, complied with, for few entered them, but sat or lay round the fires, although it was a keen frost. Notwithstanding the toil and peril we had been exposed to during the day, there was no bread for us at night; we were therefore obliged to put up with the carrion that was served to us for beef, which we frizzled over the smoky fire, and having swallowed it, composed ourselves to sleep on the cold frozen ground.

Next morning the bugles sounded at daylight, when I awoke, and found myself in a dreadful state with cold. I was

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so benumbed all over that I could scarcely move. . . . I looked around, and perceived numbers in the same condition. . . . At last, by a straining effort, I got upon my feet, packed my knapsack, and fell into the ranks, which were then forming up. My gaiters, which to ease my ankles I had thrown off the preceding evening, I now left behind me, they being as stiff as boards with lying in the frost all night. When about to march, the animating shout of, "Turn out for rum" was heard, which soon re-echoed from all quarters. Owing to the severity of the night, the Commander-in-Chief had been pleased to order an extra allowance of this vivifying liquor, which was accordingly received by us while standing in the ranks, and under its animating influence we marched off in pursuit of the enemy.

When we got upon the road, a most horrid spectacle presented itself. Our cavalry, on the preceding evening, had at this spot charged the already routed and flying enemy, who now lay thickly strewed on the road, which was nearly blocked up with the dead and dying. Many of them had received dreadful wounds from the British sabres. Arms, accoutrements, and baggage, lay in promiscuous heaps, or were strewed on the ground. . . .

Leaving this scene of horror and death at a rapid rate, we pursued our march along the road the enemy had taken, on which they had left marks indicative of their confusion and defeat. Quantities of arms and accoutrements lay on the way, which had been thrown away by the soldiers, many of whom were taken prisoners. From this time we daily met numbers, who had abandoned the standards, under which they had so long fought, now returning to their homes. This day the pursuit was so eager, that we halted only once, and then but a few minutes. I do not recollect of ever being so hungry as I was at that time; the cravings of nature were so pressing that I attempted to eat some grass I found in a ditch, but it would not go down. I was therefore obliged to push on as well as I could until dark, when we encamped in a wood, where provisions were served out about midnight.

On the 29th, the Division passed the Adour by a wooden bridge, which the enemy had in part destroyed by fire. In a few days we came up with them at Vic Bigore, from which

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after a smart skirmish, they fell back upon Tarbes, a handsome town, and extremely neat and clean. As we passed through this place, the inhabitants stood on the streets, with pitchers of wine, and pressed us to drink, to which we were nothing loath. From this place every inch of ground was contested by the enemy, who destroyed all the bridges as they went along. Not a day passed without skirmishing, and some of it very severe. But all their efforts were of no avail. Soult, with his dispirited army, was compelled to retreat across the Garonne, when, owing to heavy and incessant rain, our army was put into cantonments. Our Division was quartered in a town, situated a few miles from the banks of that noble river.

Toulouse

In quarters we remained some days, which were passed by our Company, and I believe by most of the Division, in a drinking-bout, for every house in the place was a wine store. The whole of the Company were crammed into one house, scarcely sufficient to contain the one-half, which caused a deal of bustle and confusion at first. A trap-door, however, was discovered in the floor of one of the apartments, the passage of which led to a wine-vault, where, though dark and damp, the greatest number took up their abode. . . . To illumine the place, which was altogether void of light, a number of old and empty casks were broken down for fuel, and a fire kindled on the floor, which in a short time so filled the place with smoke, that it might have been deemed uninhabitable even for the lords of Pandemonium, but the lads here were proof against smoke and fire both, when wine was the prize. A fresh pipe being broached, the ruby liquor was poured forth, not into gold or silver vases, but our black tin kettles, which were filled and emptied with surprising dispatch.

After a day of even more than usual jollity, while a number were still seated round the fire regaling themselves, and others, by the potency of the liquor, lay stretched on the floor, towards midnight the swelling notes of the bugle were heard to sound, "Turn out the whole," at which great confusion and bustle ensued. Arms and accoutrements were to seek, knapsacks to pack; but numbers were incapable of doing

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either, being insensible to everything around them, and were in the hurry trampled upon and kicked about like so many old boots. The night was dark and dismal; the rain fell in torrents, under which we stood for two hours, being delayed all that time, owing to the men not turning promptly out. Having at last marched off, we proceeded along a road rendered almost impassable by the excessive rains that had fallen, through which, however, we continued to plunge until day-break, when we found ourselves on the left bank of the Garonne, opposite to, and within a short distance of the venerable city of Toulouse, around which we could perceive numerous and strong entrenchments, which the enemy had thrown up. The column having filed to the left, proceeded on a road, in a parallel line with the river, until we were about four leagues below the city, where a pontoon bridge being thrown over the river, the Division immediately passed, leaving our Regiment to protect the bridge.

The duty assigned us here was of a very harassing and fatiguing nature. The enemy, having command of the river above us, sent down large floats of wood, and boats stuck full of spears and sword blades, in order to destroy or damage the bridge, which required on our part the utmost activity and diligence to prevent during the day, at the close of which it was taken up altogether, and replaced again in the morning. Owing to the wetness of the weather, and the numerous bodies of troops that were daily and hourly passing, the ground in the vicinity was rendered a complete puddle, in which we were generally employed the whole night, in removing the boats, boards, bolts and planks, and other materials of which the bridge was composed.

April 8th, at an early hour in the evening, orders were given to take up the bridge, which was, during the night, packed upon a number of wagons, and conveyed along the right bank of the river, until within a short league of Toulouse. Next morning before marching, I had another proof of the mild discipline, and the tender regard with which we were treated by our superiors. Having been busily employed during the night, we were by daylight very fatigued, when the Provost-Marshal, chancing to pass, one of our men in a jocular manner called to his comrades to cheer up, as they

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would soon have done, for the whipper-in was come. This was sporting with the lion's paw, and was overheard by the man of stripes himself, who ordered the wit to be instantly seized, and tied up to the next tree, where for his joke he received four dozen ticklers.

Notwithstanding the toil we had undergone, we were ordered to get on our knapsacks and accompany the wagons on their route, which, when at their destination, were unloaded, and the bridge once more laid across the river, and left in charge of a party belonging to the Light Division. We then marched off and joined our Brigade, which was lying in front of Toulouse, close to the enemy's lines. When we arrived at the camp, being completely exhausted, I threw myself on the green sward, but had been only a few minutes at rest ere I was called out on fatigue. This was another bridge I was to assist in throwing over a ditch we had crossed when entering the field, in which we were encamped. I had often before seen broader ditches crossed and recrossed, without anyone having the most distant idea of throwing anything over them, but Colonel F. (Forbes), who had been some time our Commanding Officer, had got so enamoured of engineering, that he appeared determined not to leave even a single cart-rut without a bridge.

In order that the affair might be properly done, the Colonel, although a subaltern officer superintended the party, attended in person, under whose sage directions the operations were carried on. When we had laboured for two hours, he was pleased to say our work was finished there, but that there was a spot, a short way down the road, he wished something done at, and to which he ordered us to carry our tools. At this intimation he was eyed with no very favourable aspect by the party, who, I believe, would rather have launched the tools at his head than carried them anywhere else; but as that might have been attended with danger, and there being no alternative, we complied with the order, by proceeding to the spot without delay—to which we were attended, or rather led by the Aberdonian himself. (Colonel F. was a native of Aberdeenshire.) The place pointed out by our worthy leader, was a small narrow stream, scarcely ankle deep, over which, in his mania, he wished a bridge. As such gentlemen's wishes

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generally amount to positive orders, we commenced; and under his directions, by sunset, had finished a passage, which he was pleased to pronounce sufficient for the whole army to pass; but it was neither used by the army nor himself, as will be more fully seen hereafter.

After a few hours of sound repose, we were early next morning aroused by our bugles, and in short time attacked the French outposts, who fell back upon the main body, with which we immediately came in contact. While advancing, the right flank of the Division, which swept along the right bank of the Garonne, was threatened by a body of the enemy, to oppose whom three Companies of our Regiment, together with three of the 74th, and three of the 60th German Rifles, were detached. A smart encounter ensued, in which the enemy were worsted, and compelled to retire to the shelter of some houses, from which they were immediately driven in gallant style by our party. From these houses we kept up a brisk fire upon the enemy, who had taken possession of some neighbouring buildings. In a small apartment, along with five others, I was busily engaged firing from the only window that faced the enemy, when an explosion took place in the room. We were immediately enveloped in smoke, and judging it to be caused by a shell, everyone made for the door; but owing to the haste of the two foremost, who stuck in the doorway, it was completely jammed up, detaining the others inside, who momentarily expected the bomb to burst and blow up the house. Upon getting outside, it was discovered that instead of a shell, it was my old friend David, the glutton, of gormandizing memory, formerly mentioned, that was the sole cause and only sufferer in this affray. David, wishing to be as smart as his comrades, had lodged in his cap the most of his ammunition, which coming in contact with the flash of his pan, had blown off, and reduced his headgear to a cinder, and scorched his cranium to such a degree that it resembled an old ram's when singed by a cook.

Having charged repeatedly, and dislodged the enemy from house to house, they were at last driven back to the environs of the city, where they assembled in great force at a large house surrounded by a turf wall, which they strongly lined with musketry, and where I believe they thought themselves

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secure; but after firing some time from some buildings in the vicinity, we stormed and carried their mud fortress, which they evacuated in great haste and confusion, leaving behind them several barrels of ammunition, and a number of knapsacks. By this charge it was not only proposed to dislodge the enemy from their stronghold, but even to intercept them in their flight from it. With this in view we ran past the house, but were stopped short in our career by a canal, which was not perceived until we were on its banks. The enemy passed over on boards, which they withdrew on reaching the opposite side, and commenced firing from two houses situated on the margin. Perceiving the dilemma we were placed in, the majority of our party returned to the house the enemy had just abandoned, when a tremendous fire commenced on both sides. A number of our men remained in the hollow formed by a lock on the canal, that was exactly between the houses. Amongst the latter was my comrade, William Reeves, a young English boy who had lately joined the Regiment, with a draft from England. This being only the second engagement he had been in, and understanding he was wounded, I was determined although at the risk of my life, to extricate him from his perilous situation. Intent on this, I went to the end of the house, by the corner of which the bullets were flying as thick as hail, and where a number of our Officers were endeavouring to persuade a corporal of our Regiment to go down and bring up the men from the hollow, to which the poor fellow seemed very unwilling, but at last consented to go, when he had been both cajoled and threatened. Laying off his knapsack, he sprang over the bank, on which I immediately followed, and found poor Billy stretched on the ground, extremely sick, from the loss of blood and heat of the sun. A ball had penetrated through his left arm, which was shattered and broken. Unbuckling the slings of his knapsack, I placed it upon the top of my own, and cutting his belts with my knife, " Billy," says I, "we will leave these trappings here, as you will never use such harness again; so run for your life ! " which he manfully did, and got over the bank without further injury. I now asked the corporal, whom I had followed, if he was ready to go, but shaking his head, with a sorrowful countenance, he said he

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had been wounded in the heel as he came over the bank, and could not return. Poor fellow, it was worse with him than he even then anticipated. In a few days after he died with his jaws locked.

When returned to the house, I found Billy, whose wound I bound with a bandage, which I tore from a shirt, and made a sling for his arm with the remainder. After regaling ourselves with some wine, abundance of which was in the house, I filled his canteen with the precious liquor, and putting into his havresack a loaf of bread I had found in the garden, I bade him good-bye and God bless him. He went to the rear where, in all probability, he would meet with a surgeon who would dress his wound. I have never seen him since, but I understand, however, he was discharged some time after, in England, with a pension. . . .

Long ere the action was ended, there was ample time and opportunity for everyone to display their valour and prowess, for independent of the heavy fire that rolled on from morning till night, several attempts were made by our party to pass the canal, all of which, notwithstanding the valour and courage displayed, proved abortive. On being repulsed in one of these charges, and when all that were able had returned to the house, a German, belonging to the 60th Rifles, remained on the beam, or lever of the canal lock, from which he fired several shots. The firing ceased on both sides, and for a few seconds the attention of friend and foe was riveted on the author of this "deed of high daring." He, however, fell a victim to his temerity; he received a shot in his breast, and fell into the canal. This action I think was more strongly tinctured with frenzy than courage.

While affairs were thus situated on the right, the Division on our left, by corresponding movements, arrived in front of the canal at the same time with our party, where their progress was arrested by the enemy, who in great force occupied a fort that surmounted a bridge [Bridge of Jumeaux] on the canal. Having reconnoitred the position, General Picton ordered the place to be stormed by our Regiment, which accordingly formed up, and with three cheers issued from the wood in which the Division was posted. The assailants, under a most galling fire of round shot and

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musketry, advanced with great spirit and intrepidity, and gained the outer ditch, but being deficient in ladders, it was found impracticable to take the place. The General then ordered a retreat, which was effected with great loss to the Regiment. In this affair Colonel F. lost his life by a cannon ball, which struck him on the back when retiring, and literally went through his body. It was for some time a matter of speculation with the men, whether the Aberdonian would avail himself of old Charon's boat, or throw a bridge over the Styx? The only man in the Regiment that entered the fort, was a gay, light-hearted Irishman, who had, in his time, received some thousands of lashes in the service. Pat Conner was what is called a tight clean soldier, generally steady when without money, but if possessed of a single tenpenny (franc), could not withstand the allurements of women and wine, which placed him sometimes in very awkward circumstances, and for which he had often embraced the three twin sisters (triangles). But though Pat loved a row in a wineshop, he was a good soldier, and on this occasion proved himself a hero. On gaining the glacis, which none did but himself, he made a fair and clean leap into the interior of the fort, plunging amongst the bristling bayonets of his enemies, and shouting as he went, "Hurra! ye b——s, hurra!" But more of Pat anon.

[Unfortunately Pat Conner does not appear in the Peninsular Medal Roll of the 45th. Presumably he must have died before 1847. There is a William Conner, but he received no clasp later than Pyrenees.]

Night coming on at last put an end to the contest. Our party having been unable to force the canal, remained until evening in the houses they had occupied the greatest part of the day, still keeping up a heavy fire upon the enemy who, when it was dusk, sent out a flag of truce with an officer, accompanied by a trumpeter, who sounding a parley, the firing immediately ceased on both sides. The object of this mission was to crave a cessation of hostilities for the night, which was no sooner granted than the French soldiers came leaping over the lock, with baskets of bread, and abundance of brandy and wine, of which we willingly partook on the bank of the canal, where, with the utmost confidence and

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cordiality, we got seated promiscuously. . . . But our Officers thought or at least acted otherwise, for they in a short time recalled us, and prohibited all further intercourse with the enemy. Thus terminated the Battle of Toulouse, fought on the 10th of April, being Easter Sunday; whether it was the work of necessity or mercy, I will leave the reader to determine. It was, however, severe work for the parties concerned.

After it was dark, our Division was withdrawn, and encamped for the night at the distance of half a mile from the scene of action, and next morning got into quarters in several detached houses in the vicinity. On the evening of the same day, Soult, conceiving himself in danger of being surrounded, abandoned Toulouse, and retreated during the night, in pursuit of whom our army advanced next morning.

When passing through Toulouse, Pat Conner was found drunk and happy, standing, or rather lying up against the door of a wine-house. When asked how he had escaped with his life from the French—"wid my life!" exclaimed Pat, "why, the Francees never offered to lay a durty finger on me!" The truth of the matter was this—the enemy, admiring his courage and intrepidity, saved his life by taking him prisoner; and he had now eluded the vigilance of his guard during the bustle occasioned by his captors leaving Toulouse, where he remained until found by his countrymen.

When two leagues in front of Toulouse, our attention was highly excited by what appeared to us a wonderful phenomenon —a carriage, containing two French Officers, came furiously past, escorted by parties of British and French Dragoons, who, as they went along, imparted to our men the news of peace having been established at Paris, and that they were then on their way to Headquarters to communicate the glad tidings to our Commander-in-Chief. This vivifying intelligence, like lightning, flew from rank to rank, but no one dared to credit the wondrous tale. . . . It was not until our march was actually countermanded, and the transactions which had taken place at Paris, were communicated to us through the medium of a General Order, that we could give implicit credence to the affair. . . .

Having counter-marched, we retraced our steps through Toulouse, and next day the Brigade was put into cantonments

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at Grenade, where indeed, we enjoyed the sweets of peace. Our duty was light and pleasant, and provisions abundant and cheap; bread sold at two sous (one penny) per pound. Wine, in taverns, at half as much more per bottle, but sold in cellars a deal cheaper. There I have purchased four canteens full, which was eight quarts, for a demi-franc, which was the cost of a bottle of brandy. Beef and mutton were at the same rate per pound, weighing forty ounces, which reduced it to twopence per pound English. Fowls were extremely plentiful, consequently cheap. A good goose sold for a franc, or tenpence British currency, and all other articles of provision equally cheap. The town was pleasantly situated near the Garonne, and of considerable extent, containing from five or six thousand inhabitants, who were kind, hospitable and friendly. Such was Grenade, which on account of the kind treatment I experienced from several of its inhabitants, I shall ever remember with the most lively gratitude and pleasure. . . .

Having passed five weeks very pleasantly in this place, the Regiment received the route for the coast preparatory to embarkation. This march extended to about 90 miles, and was the most agreeable I ever had. The weather was good, the roads were excellent, and led through a most charming country. After the day's march, comfortable quarters awaited us at night, with a kind host, and kinder hostess, all of which tended to exhilarate our spirits, and render us cheerful and gay. Passing Beaumont, Bordeaux, and other considerable cities and towns, we at last encamped on a plain about seven miles distant from the latter, where with the greatest part of the army, we were for the last time reviewed by the Marquis of Wellington. Having remained at this encampment fourteen days, the Regiment embarked on board a transport at Poliack (? Pauillac), a small port on the Garonne.

Ireland

After a tedious passage of twenty-one days, in which nothing material occurred, we cast anchor in the Cove of Cork, and next day landed with palpitating hearts and fluttering spirits. But what a contrast did the appearance of the Regiment form, to that which it made, but six years

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antecedent, when embarking at this very port for Portugal. Then it consisted of 1100 stout young men, glowing with health and animated with all the vigour of youth. Now, less than 300 formed the skeleton ranks, few of whom but had been wounded, many oftener than once, and none that were not more or less worn with fatigue and disease. But this was not all; while on service we had received drafts, or reinforcements, to the amount of 2200 from the 2nd Battalion, making in all 3300, all of whom had disappeared, except the 300 veterans who now stood on the margin of Erin's green isle.

From the Cove we marched to the City of Cork, where we remained a month in the new barracks, and were then fitted out with clothing, and with what else we were deficient of. We had eight days' leave given to spend our arrears of pay, which with many amounted to a considerable sum for a soldier. All of which was faithfully and justly paid; for, however a man may be treated in other respects in the army, he is sure of being paid to the last farthing.

Having got the route for Enniskillen, which is thirteen days' march from Cork, we left that city, and passing Fermoy, Mitchelstown, Cashel, and Roscrea, we arrived at Tullamore, where by the upsetting of a kettle full of boiling water, I had one of my legs sorely scalded; in consequence of which, being unable to proceed with the Regiment, I was left in the hospital of the Brecknockshire Militia. After remaining there for three weeks, being perfectly recovered, I was discharged from hospital, and served with eight days' pay which was to carry me to the Regiment.

In Enniskillen the Regiment remained five months, which time, though it was winter, passed on very pleasantly. Provisions were cheap, and turf was served in abundance for fuel, enabling us to keep on good fires, at which we passed the long winter evenings in an agreeable and comfortable manner, very different from that we had been accustomed to for some years past. We at last got the route for Belfast, when we left Enniskillen during a keen frost. At Maguire's Bridge, which was our first stage, I was with three more quartered in a public-house. In the room where we slept we found hid in some straw, a cask of whisky, which was a

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temptation we were not inclined to withstand. Accordingly, the morning found us on the march, with our canteens and kettles full of the liquor, with which we treated our comrades and acquaintances, who in a short time were as deeply intoxicated as ourselves. For my own part I was so much so, that I threw away my arms, and refused to march; indeed, in a short time I was quite unable, and got so stupid that I could not stand on my feet. I was therefore left lying insensible on the road. On recovering my senses I found myself sitting in a small cabin, eating, or rather worrying, a potful of potatoes which stood on the hearth before me. Three of my comrades lay asleep on the floor, while a N.C.O., who had been left to take charge of us, sat by the fire. In a short time the snorers were roused, when we set forward; but we had many a sore and clumsy fall before reaching Clogher, our quarters for the night, where we were ordered on extra guard, by way of expiation for our sins.

On reaching Belfast we were put into barracks, and in a short time our Company was sent on detachment to Carrickfergus, where I remained four months. The Regiment was then ordered to Dublin, in which city I was but three weeks when I received my discharge, my time of service being expired. The same day I engaged for my passage in a vessel bound for Irvine, but being detained in port by contrary winds, after three days' delay, I left Dublin for Donaghadee, with only 4s. 6d. in my pocket, having previously purchased clothes with what money I had. Arriving at Donaghadee my funds were reduced to 2s., which I paid for my passage to Port Patrick, where, after all my toils and dangers, I landed in my own dear country, 72 miles from home without a halfpenny. At Girvan I was under the necessity of selling a pair of stockings to procure a supper, and next day reached home with a palpitating heart.

Epilogue

Thus I noted down the most prominent occurrences of my early life, and fought my battles o'er again. Not that I think them any way peculiar, for I am well aware that numbers of my countrymen, and even many of my townsmen, have felt and suffered more in the service of their country, and gone

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through a greater variety of surprising adventures than has been here related. Neither is it from vanity, but from pure vexation of spirit that I have gone over my old ground, for I feel grieved, deeply grieved, for my former folly, and inconsiderate thoughtlessness. My youthful imprudence has launched me into a sea of troubles—an ocean of misery has engulfed me, from which I will never be able to emerge on this side of time. When I received my discharge I fondly hoped that all my hardships were at an end, but for some time prior to that event, a disease, an enervating and an incurable disease had seized me, which has since, and ever will prey upon, and unman me. This malign disorder was but in its infancy when I left the service, and having no idea of what was the matter, I came away without my ailment being known, else I make no doubt but I would have been provided for in my infirmity. I therefore can blame none but myself. It is this that galls and confounds me. . . .

It is now at this period (1829), thirteen long years since I left the service, which time has been filled up with a series of losses, crosses, and disappointments. Yet, for these eleven years past, I have had great and almost infinite consolation, which spring from an alliance with a most deserving and amiable woman, who is indeed my better half.

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XIII

GRAVES OF THE 45TH WHO DIED NEARLY A HUNDRED YEARS AGO

TOWARDS the end of 1921 Mrs. Sampson, the wife of the Hon. Justice Sampson of Grahamstown, South Africa, wrote to Colonels of regiments concerned pointing out that several of the graves of officers and soldiers who had fallen in the earlier Kaffir wars of last century (in which the 45th bore a distinguished part) had fallen into a sad state of disrepair, several of them being unrecognisable.

Mrs. Sampson described how she had already collected quite a considerable sum of money from British colonists, and how she hoped to increase her fund so as not only to be able to repair the graves which could still be recognised, but also to erect a small cenotaph in memory of unknown soldiers buried at Grahamstown. Amongst others she appealed to our Colonel. In response Gen. Sir Horace Smith-Dorrien wrote asking (*a*) the number of graves of the Regiment; (*b*) the amount required to put them in order; (*c*) the amount she expected to collect from each Regiment; and received the following reply:—

DEAR SIR, *May 30th*, 1922.

I must thank you for your letter of April 15th, 1922, on the subject of the graves of the officers and men of the 45th Regiment (there are no 95th traceable) in the Old Cemetery at Grahamstown (the centre of the early Kaffir wars), and for your kind appreciation of my efforts to restore and preserve them. I think I ought to make it clear to you that I have only undertaken this work in regard to those who fell in the early Kaffir wars, and that the Guild of Loyal Women was instituted for the care of the graves of those who fell in the Boer War. Very many of the military graves in Grahams-

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town have quite disappeared, the graves being built over. Lord Methuen was instrumental in saving a few in the Public Gardens (one a Waterloo man), and the rest are in the old cemetery which I am trying to put in order. They were fast falling into ruin. I enclose two printed slips which will give you fuller information about them and the work. There are twenty regiments represented in the cemetery. About £600 has been subscribed in South Africa for their restoration and future maintenance, but this sum proved not nearly sufficient to put the cemetery in order and provide a permanent caretaker as well.

I was therefore compelled, very unwillingly, to ask the regiments concerned for some assistance. The response has seemed most generous when it is considered what heavy calls for help and the exercise of esprit de corps the Army is sustaining at the present moment, but we are still short by some £200, which I still hope to obtain from those who should remember what we in South Africa owe to our soldiers.

But any donation which the 45th may feel able to send will be most gratefully received, though I quite appreciate the many calls upon it at the present time. You will understand that a great deal more is wanted than the repair of individual graves, for each is bound up in the care of the whole. The number of officers and men of each regiment are not great, but there are twenty regiments concerned in the general care.

In the case of the 45th there are only two recognisable graves, those of Sergt. Edward Featherstone, January, 1853, and Pte. H. Dunn, December, 1859, whose stone was discovered buried in the ground. You will therefore see that I cannot give an exact reply to your questions (*a*) and (*b*). With regard to question (*c*), the matter must be left entirely to the discretion of the Battalion. Other regiments have varied between £5 and £15 in their donations.

I must thank you again for your courteous reply to my letter.

Faithfully yours,

MILDRED A. SAMPSON,
Director *pro tem.* of Work to the Cemetery Board.

P.S. I see the Army List dates for the 45th Regiment in South Africa are only 1846–7, perhaps Regimental History will

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explain the discrepancy between the dates on the stone and theirs.

Address: Mrs. Victor Sampson,
c/o Hon. Justice Sampson,
Grahamstown, C.P.,
South Africa.

General Smith-Dorrien then laid the matter before the Officers commanding the 1st and 2nd Battalions and the Depot, and received such a generous response that he was able to send her a cheque for £25, with the following covering letter :—

DEAR MRS. SAMPSON, *4th August*, 1922.

I do not think I acknowledged your letter of 30th May last, but am not quite sure. It has taken some time to get replies, but I hope you will think the result satisfactory, for including my own subscription I am able to send you £25 from the Battalions and the Depot.

May I again thank you on behalf of the Sherwood Foresters for the immense trouble you are taking on behalf of the graves of old 45th soldiers.

Believe me,
Yours gratefully,
H. L. SMITH-DORRIEN

It is probably known that the 45th served many years in South Africa and that quite a large number of them settled there.

In this connection Sir Horace has given me the following extract from his Boer War diary :—

When he was appointed to command a Brigade in February, 1900, having handed over command of the 1st Battalion to Major Gosset near Sterkstroom on the 2nd February, he had to ride some 90 miles across country to Thebus Station to find a train which would convey him to Orange River Station where his Brigade was forming. On the 6th, after proceeding 7 miles from the township of Maraisburg, he stopped at a farm belonging to Mr. Crook and there found a dear old man, Mr

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H. E. Bagot, one of the original settlers in 1820, born five months after his father landed in South Africa, his father's name being Capt. R. W. Bagot of the 45th Regiment, whose home had been in County Kildare.

[The apparent discrepancy in dates pointed out by Mrs. Sampson is doubtless explained by the fact that while the dates in the Army List "South Africa, 1846–47" refer only to the period covered by active operations in the field in the Kaffir wars, the 45th Regiment did not actually sail from South Africa until April, 1859. Probably Pte. Dunn remained behind in hospital on the departure of his regiment.—ED.]

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XIV

THE HISTORY OF THE REGIMENTAL DINNER CLUB

FROM one or two old manuscript books which had been preserved by the late Gen. Sir Julius Raines, the originator and for very many years the manager of the Club, and which, when in 1908 he resigned the management, he handed over to the present honorary secretary, his unworthy successor, it seems that the Club was started in the 95th Regiment, now our 2nd Battalion, on its return to England from India in 1870, the first dinner taking place at the Cannon Street Hotel in Derby week 1871. On this occasion Col. J. A. R. Raines, C.B., then commanding the 95th Regiment, was in the Chair, and was supported by the following seventeen past and present officers: Cols. St. Leger Alcock, Hume, C.B., and Sargent, C.B.; Inspector-General Gordon, C.B., M.D., Majors Cornwall, E. D. Smith and Forde; Capts. Vallence, Anderson and Taylor; Lieuts. Cotton, Burnett, Sir A. Campbell, Bevan, Tower, Sparkes and Chichester.

It is interesting to note that the Col. Alcock above mentioned was one of those gazetted to the 95th Regiment on its formation in December, 1823, as junior Ensign from half-pay of the 36th Foot.

No further Dinner was held for some years, and it was not until 1877 that a second Dinner took place, and that it commenced to become an annual event. The date this year was the 13th June, the Tuesday in Ascot week, the place Willis's Rooms, when there were twenty-two diners, the Chairman being Lt.-Gen. Brownrigg, who was at that time Colonel of the 95th Regiment.

At this time the Dinner seems to have been a movable feast; it was usually held in Derby week, though occasionally during Ascot, but the actual date or day of the week varied, and this fact and the Club being then open to the past and

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present members of one Battalion only, tended to keep the numbers low, and the average number of diners each year was about twenty-four, being in one year as low as eighteen and in another as high as thirty-five.

In 1881 the 45th and 95th became one regiment, and the question was at once mooted by the Dinner Committee whether the Dinner should continue as a 95th Dinner or whether the 45th, who had not yet started any function of the kind, should be invited to join the Dinner, it being carried on as an amalgamated gathering. Nothing, however, materialised for some little time; in fact it does not appear to have been until 1890, in which year the Thursday in Derby week was fixed upon as the annual date for the meeting, that the officers, past and present, of the 1st Battalion came in. It was considered by the committee of the existing Club that the balance of the Dinner fund should not be carried to the credit of the amalgamated Club, and accordingly £50 was expended in the purchase of a silver two-handled cup weighing 112 oz., which was presented by the old members to the Officers' mess 2nd Battalion.

The names of those who dined on the 5th June, 1890, at the Café Royal may here well be recorded, the figures 1 and 2 after each name showing to which Battalion the diner then belonged or had belonged: Generals Raines, C.B. (2), in the Chair, Bingham, C.B. (2), Hayward (1), Parkinson (2), Smith (2) and Wilkinson, C.B. (2); Cols. Callwell (1), Crealock, C.B. (2), Knatchbull (2), Golding (2), Sexton (2) and Thrupp (1); Majors Coney (1), Dowse (1), Hall (1), Hudson (2), Thompson (2), Trower (2); Capts. Pearse (1), Bowman (2), Dalbiac (1), Etheridge (2), Foot (1), Gordon-Cumming (1), Kilbee-Stuart (1), Shaw (2), Stopford (2), Reeve (1) and Tyrwhitt-Walker (1); Lieuts. Atherley (2), Cullen (1), Rattray (2), Slade-Gully (1) and Wilson (2). The numbers were fairly evenly divided.

In 1908 Gen. Sir Julius Raines, having expressed his wish to be relieved of the cares of management of the Club, the duty of Hon. Sec. was assumed by Col. H. C. Wylly.

Since 1877 the Dinner has been held annually, the only exceptions being in 1910, the year of the death of King Edward, and in 1915, 1916, 1917 and 1918, the years of the

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Great War, when no Dinner took place. The largest attendance ever experienced was in 1921 when fifty-nine Officers dined.

The two manuscript books above mentioned have now been handed over to the Officer Commanding the Depot, where they will be more immediately available for purposes of future research. A tolerably complete collection of menu-cards from 1877 to the present day, and which possess more than mere gastronomic interest for the Regiment, has also been placed at the disposal of Major C. D. Harvey, who intends to have them suitably mounted in a book and preserved at the Officers' mess at the Depot.

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XV

LIST OF MEDALS PRESENTED TO OFFICERS' MESS, 2ND BATTALION SHERWOOD FORESTERS

Name of Medal.	No. of Bars.	Name of Owner.	Presented by
Indian Frontier.	Sikkim, 1888.	Pte. T. Williamson.	Major Watson, C.M.G., D.S.O.
,,	,, ,,	,, T. Binkley.	
,,	,, ,,	,, T. Robinson.	Major Watson, C.M.G.,D.S.O.
,,	,, ,,	Corpl. F. Finton.	
,,	,, ,,	Pte. M. Kease.	
,,	,, ,,	,, W. Green.	,, ,, ,,
,,	,, ,,	,, C. Geary.	
,,	,, ,,	,, W. Wilkinson.	
,,	,, ,,	,, M. Connor.	
,,	,, ,,	,, H. Golding.	
,,	,, ,,	,, P. Quinn.	
,,	,, ,,	,, W. Dakin.	
,,	,, ,,	,, A. Sheppard.	
,,	,, ,,	,, T. Ferguson.	
,,	,, ,,	,, —Hogarty.	
,,	,, ,,	,, T. Raven.	
,,	,, ,,	,, C. Selby.	
,,	,, ,,	,, C. Jarvis.	

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Name of Medal.	No. of Bars.	Name of Owner.	Presented by
Indian Frontier.	Sikkim, 1888.	Pte. T. Smith.	
,,	,, ,,	,, T. Birmingham.	
,,	,, ,,	,, T. Bannister.	Major Watson, C.M.G., D.S.O.
,,	,, ,,	,, H. Hart.	,, ,, ,,
,,	,, ,,	,, M. Carney.	,, ,, ,,
,,	,, ,,	,, J. Jennings.	,, ,, ,,
,,	,, ,,	,, G. Stonystick.	,, ,, ,,
South Africa.	South Africa, 1902, Transvaal, Orange Free State, Cape Colony.	,, Harrison.	Sir Julius Raines.
,, ,,	Transvaal, Orange Free State, Cape Colony.	,, Stanton.	,, ,,
Total Abstinence, 1882.	Nil.	Lce.-Corpl. Lame.	,, ,,
South Africa.	Johannesburg, Orange Free State, Cape Colony.	Pte. H. Bucknall.	
Indian Mutiny.	Central India.	THE DERBY RAM.	
Indian Frontier.	Punjab Frontier, 1897–98, Tirah, 1897–98.	Lce.-Corpl. J. Caveney.	
,, ,,	,, ,,	Pte. S. Hornbuckle.	
,, ,,	,, ,,	,, F. Mason.	
,, ,,	,, ,,	,, F. Mitchell.	Major Watson, C.M.G., D.S.O.
,, ,,	,, ,,	,, A. Walden.	,, ,, ,,

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Name of Medal.	No. of Bars.	Name of Owner.	Presented by
Indian Frontier.	Punjab Frontier, 1897–98.		
	Tirah, 1897–98.	Pte. J. Nevvitt.	
,, ,,	,, ,,	,, A. Silvers.	Major Watson; C.M.G., D.S.O.
,, ,,	,, ,,	,, W. Lee.	,, ,, ,,
,, ,,	,, ,,	,, G. Barnes.	,, ,, ,,
,, ,,	,, ,,	,, J. Baugham.	
,, ,,	,, ,,	,, J. Talbot.	
,, ,,	,, ,,	Corpl. G. Gerrie.	
,, ,,	,, ,,	Pte. J. Andrews.	
Egypt, 1882, and Star.	Nil.	,, T. Williamson.	
,, ,, ,,	,,	Lt.-Col. W. Golding.	Mrs. Golding.
,, ,, ,,	,,	Pte. S. Murden.	
,, ,, ,,	,,	,, T. Binkley.	
,, ,,	,,	,, G. Johnson.	Major Watson, C.M.G., D.S.O.
,, ,,	,,	Sergt. C. W. Venn.	,, ,, ,,
,, ,,	,,	Pte. J. Ewartt.	,, ,, ,,
,, ,,	,,	,, W. Collier.	,, ,, ,,
,, ,, ,,	,,	,, E. Green.	
,, ,, ,,	,,	,, W. Smith.	
,, ,, ,,	,,	,, E. Purcell.	
Indian Frontier.	Sikkim, 1888	Corpl. C. Spence.	
,, ,,	,, ,,	Pte. W. Jones.	,, ,, ,,
,, ,,	,, ,,	,, M. Burke.	

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Name of Medal.	No. of Bars.	Name of Owner.	Presented by
Indian Frontier.	Sikkim, 1888.	Pte. J. Halshaw.	
,, ,,	Diamond Hill.	,, V. Foxon.	
,, ,,	Johannesburg.	,, S. Smedley.	Sir Julius Raines.
,, ,,	Orange Free State,		
,, ,,	Cape Colony.	,, W. Rowe.	
Crimea.	Nil.	,, J. Ashfield.	,, ,,
Indian Frontier.	Tirah, 1897–98, Punjab, 1897–98.	,, R. Lineker.	,, ,,
Indian Frontier.	Sikkim, 1888.	,, W. Henderson.	,, ,,
Indian Mutiny.	Central India.	,, J. Ashfield.	,, ,,
Crimea.	Nil.	,, C. Donovan.	,, ,,
South Africa.	Transvaal, Orange Free State, Cape Colony.	,, H. Varley.	,, ,,
,, ,,	,, ,, ,,	,, H. Edwards.	,, ,,
,, ,,	,, ,, ,,	,, F. Foster.	,, ,,
Crimea.	Sebastopol.	Dmr. T. Holland.	
,,	,,	Pte. R. Mower.	
,,	Sebastopol, Inkerman.	Capt. G. Brown.	Major Watson, C.M.G., D.S.O.
,,	,, ,,	Pte. W. Wright.	
,,	Sebastopol, Inkerman, Alma.	J. Bytheway.	,, ,, ,,
,,	,, ,, ,,	W. Flaherty.	
,,	,, ,, ,,	Q.M.S. A. Lambert.	,, ,, ,,
,,	,, ,, ,,	J. Sturley.	,, ,, ,,

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Name of Medal.	No. of Bars.	Name of Owner.	Presented by
Crimea.	Sebastopol, Inkerman, Alma.	H. Penny.	Major Watson, C.M.G., D.S.O.
,,	,, ,, ,,	Sergt. B. Chapman.	
,,	,, ,, ,,	Pte. P. Carthey.	
,,	,, ,, ,,	J. Briscoe.	,, ,, ,,
,,	,, ,, ,,	Clr.-Sergt. Long.	
,,	,, ,, ,,	Pte. P. Sweeney.	
,,	,, ,, ,,	,, M. Carrell.	
,,	,, ,, ,,	Sergt. W. Beddo.	
,,	,, ,, ,,	,, J. Moxham.	
,,	,, ,, ,,	Pte. R. Devest.	
,,	Sebastopol.	,, W. Hodgskinson.	,, ,, ,,
,,	,,	,, J. Byrne.	,, ,, ,,
,,	,,	,, J. Barnes.	,, ,, ,,
,,	,,	,, A. Brown.	
,,	,,	,, T. Hair.	,, ,, ,,
,,	,,	,, R. Burgess.	
,,	,,	,, H Dunlop.	
,,	,,	J. Raynard.	
,,	Sebastopol, Inkerman, Alma.	Sergt. P. Murphy.	Col. Wylly, C.B.
Long Service and Good Conduct.	Nil.	Lce.-Corpl. W. Pratt.	
,, ,,	,,	Chas. Cody.	
,, ,,	,,	Q.M.S. A. Lambert.	Major Watson, C.M.G., D.S.O.

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Name of Medal.	No. of Bars.	Name of Owner.	Presented by
Long Service and Good Conduct.	Nil.	Q.M.S. C. J. Withers.	Major Watson, C.M.G., D.S.O.
,, ,,	,,	Clr.-Sergt. R. Smith.	,, ,, ,,
,, ,,	,,	Sergt. P. Murphy.	Col. Wylly, C.B.
Crimea	,,	,, J. McHale.	
,,	,,	,, J. Horrigan.	
,,	,,	,, J. Finch.	
,,	,,	Pte. M. Cahill.	
,,	,,	No name.	
,,	,,	Pte. R. Jones.	
,,	,,	Q.M.S. A. Lambert.	
,,	,,	Pte. Briscoe.	
,,	,,	No name.	
,,	,,	Sergt. P. Murphy.	Col. Wylly, C.B.
Sardinian Crimea.	,,	Lt.-Gen. Sir Julius Raines, G.C.B.	Lady Raines.
Valeur et Discipline.	,,	Pte. M. Boyle.	Sir J. Raines.
Russian Officer, 1849.	,,	No name.	,, ,,
Crimea.	Alma.	Lieut. W. R. Willans.	,, ,,
,,	,,	Pte. J. Blythe.	,, ,,
,,	Alma, Sebastopol, Inkerman.	,, C. Donovan.	,, ,,
,,	,, ,, ,,	,, J. Fitzgerald.	,, ,,
,,	Sebastopol.	,, J. Ashfield.	,, ,,

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Name of Medal.	No. of Bars.	Name of Owner.	Presented by
Crimea.	Alma.	Pte. S. Lygett.	Sir J. Raines.
Indian Mutiny.	Central India.	J. Dimmock.	Major Watson, C.M.G., D.S.O.
,, ,,	,, ,,	Chas. Pickett.	,, ,, ,,
,, ,,	,, ,,	H. Mutifen.	,, ,, ,,
,, ,,	,, ,,	Q.M.S. A. Lambert.	,, ,, ,,
,, ,,	,, ,,	Ensign L. Knipe.	Col. Wylly, C.B.
,, ,,	,, ,,	W. Westwood.	Major Watson, C.M.G., D.S.O.
,, ,,	,, ,,	J. Murphey.	,, ,, ,,
,, ,,	,, ,,	J. Withers.	,, ,, ,,
,, ,,	,, ,,	Pte. J. Boherty.	
,, ,,	,, ,,	,, D. Douglas.	
,, ,,	,, ,,	,, J. Cody.	
,, ,,	,, ,,	,, T. Neill.	
,, ,,	,, ,,	Corpl. T. Gamley.	
,, ,,	,, ,,	Pte. W. Higgs.	
,, ,,	,, ,,	Dr. W. McIntyre.	
,, ,,	,, ,,	A. Brown.	
,, ,,	,, ,,	Thos. Hair.	,, ,, ,,
,, ,,	,, ,,	Clr.-Sergt. J. Goodwin.	,, ,, ,,
,, ,,	,, ,,	J. Finch.	,, ,, ,,
,, ,,	,, ,,	H. Francis.	
,, ,,	,, ,,	R. Burgess.	
,, ,,	,, ,,	Pte. H. Dunlop.	

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Name of Medal.	No. of Bars.	Name of Owner.	Presented by
Indian Mutiny.	Central India.	J. Reynard.	Major Watson, C.M.G., D.S.O.
,, ,,	,, ,,	Sergt. P. Murphy.	Col. Wylly, C.B.
Distinguished Conduct in the Field.	Nil.	Pte. A. H. Hall.	Major Watson, C.M.G., D.S.O.
,, ,, ,,	,,	,, R. Burke.	,, ,, ,,
Indian Frontier.	Tirah, 1897–98.		
	Punjab Frontier, 1897–98.	Pte. W. Malkin.	
,, ,,	,, ,, ,,	Dmr. W. Smith.	
,, ,,	,, ,, ,,	Pte. J. Leadbeater.	,, ,, ,,
,, ,,	,, ,, ,,	,, J. Ryan.	,, ,, ,,
,, ,,	,, ,, ,,	,, E. McDermott.	
,, ,,	Punjab Frontier, 1897–98.	,, R. Birks.	
,, ,,	,, ,, ,,	,, W. Gregory.	
,, ,,	,, ,, ,,	,, J. Potter.	
Distinguished Conduct in the Field.	Nil.	Corpl. W. Bish.	
Indian Frontier.	Tirah, 1897–98, Punjab, 1897–98.	Bhisty Nubbia.	
Gwalior Cross, 1857.	Nil.	Lieut. W. Willans.	,, ,, ,,

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XVI

WHERE ARE THE BOYS OF THE OLD BRIGADE?

FOR the location of most of the Old Comrades given in this number I have to thank some old members of the Regiment for the information. I shall be very pleased if any Comrades who know of the whereabouts of any of our old friends would send the information on to me. At the present time I have no Records of any description to work upon, and have to depend on meeting most of the members at some time or other during the year.

T. P. THOMPSON,
O.R.Q.M.-Sergt.,
Depot of The Sherwood Foresters.

The following changes have taken place in the Personnel of the Permanent Staff of the Depot during the past twelve months :—

C.S.M. Ward, J. A. (D.C.M.) .	Discharged to pension after 24 years' service. Served with the 2nd Battn. and 11th Battn. during the Great War. Now living at Harby and Stathern, Leicestershire.
C.S.M. Laurence, A. E. . . (D.C.M.)	Discharged under "The Axe" with 13 years and 10 months' service. No pension. Now employed with the Omagh Special Constabulary as a Drill Instructor.
Sgt. Wilson, J. . . .	Posted to 1st Battn. and later to Permanent Staff of the Robin Hood Rifles.
Sgt. Wood, E. . . .	Discharged to pension after 22 years' service. Now living at Ilkeston.
Sgt. Lilley, L. G. . . .	Discharged under "The Axe." Now employed with Messrs. Rolls Royce & Co., Ltd., Derby.

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Sgt. Richardson, G. W. .	Discharged under "The Axe." Now on the Nottingham City Police Force.
Sgt. Mathews, C. . .	Discharged under "The Axe." Now living and working in Cambridge.
Sgt. Foster, H. C. .	Discharged under "The Axe." Now employed as a sorter at the G.P.O., Derby.
Lce.-Sgt. Pridmore, T. .	Discharged to pension after 21 years' service. Now employed with Messrs. Atkeys' Motor Garage, Derby.
Pte. Herrington, C. .	Well known as a good Officers' servant and Officers' mess man. Discharged to pension after 29 years' service. Now employed as a watchman with Messrs. Fletchers' Foundry, Derby.

They have been relieved by the following :—

C.S.M. Howarth, W. D. . (D.C.M.)	Son of ex-Bandmaster S. Howarth. Served with 2nd and 9th Battns. during the War in M.E.F. and B.E.F. Awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal for Gallantry with the 9th Battn.
C.S.M. Underwood, H. . (D.C.M., M.M.)	Formerly a Bandsman with the 2nd Battn. Served in B.E.F. with that Battn. Awarded The Distinguished Conduct Medal, The Military Medal and the Silver Medal for Meritorious Service.
C.S.M. King, A. . .	Formerly 1st Battn. Leicester Regiment. Transferred to the Foresters and served with 1st Gar. Battn. in M.E.F. and E.E.F.
Sgt.-Dmr. Mortimer, A.	Posted to Depot as Sgt.-Dmr. vice Sgt.-Dmr. Hillier, discharged to pension. A son of ex-C.-Sgt. A. Mortimer who is well known in both 2nd Battn. and the Robin Hood Rifles.
Sgt. Appleby . .	1st Battn. Sherwood Foresters. Served with that Battn. throughout the Great War.
Sgt. Smith, P. . .	Formerly D.L.I. and transferred to the Foresters.

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Sgt. Styring	2nd Battn. also served with 1st Battn. Has a brother who was very badly wounded at the Battle of the Aisne and who was servant to Major C. C. Parkinson, M.V.O.
Sgt. Grant, T. H. . .	Served with 6th Battn. during the Great War. Afterwards on Staff of the Small Arms School, Hythe, where he rendered excellent service.
Pte. Joyce, P. . . .	Well known in 2nd Battn. as a very fine all-round sportsman. The possessor of many football medals. Still plays very fine football with the Depot team after 20 years' service.

The following Old Comrade has answered the Last Call during the past year :—

ex-C.Q.M.S. McKinnon, F. .	1st and 2nd Battns. Well known as a most excellent Sgt. Master Cook. Died at Derby of consumption after a long illness. Buried in Nottingham Road Cemetery, Derby, with full Military Honours rendered by the Depot.

The following Old Comrades have been located as under :—

ex-Sgt. Allsebrooke, H. . .	O.R. Clerk of 4th Battn. Served in Tirah and S.A. Campaign. Now a P.P. Recruiter in Derby.
ex-Sgt. Arthurs, H. . .	Well known in 1st Battn. Now to pension and employed with T.F. Assn., Chesterfield.
ex-Sgt. Buttery, F. . .	Band, 2nd Battn. Re-enlisted in Hants Regiment, August, 1914. Served with 1st Battn. that Regiment in 29th Division. At original landing at Suvla Bay, 25/26th April, 1915. Severely wounded. Now working and living at Newport, I. of W.
ex-Pte. Boon, H. . . .	(Narrow). Well known as a very fine goal-keeper in 2nd Battn. team. Now employed at the Gas Works Newport, I. of W.

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ex-Pte. Bottomley, H. .	Served with 6th Vol. Battn. S.F. (Home Service) Home Guards. Now employed under the Derby School Board at Ashbourne Road Schools. A noted local referee and Secretary of the Derby Wednesday Football League.
ex-C.S. Boden, J. W. .	One of the oldest volunteers of the Regiment now living. Enlisted 1861. Now proprietor of the Edinburgh Café and Restaurant, Matlock, Bath. All old Foresters are sure of a very hearty welcome when they visit his café at Matlock, Bath.
ex-Pte. Clayton, J. .	Well known as a signaller 2nd Battn. Now employed at G.P.O., Newport, I. of W.
ex-Pte. Coyne, E. .	1st and 2nd Battn. Now employed as house steward, Government House, Singapore.
ex-R.Q.M.S. Downes, T.	R.Q.M.S. of 3rd Battn. Now Mine Host of the Duke of Clarence, Mansfield Road, Derby.
ex-Corpl. Freeman, W. .	Employed as shoemaker in 2nd Battn. Now owner of a prosperous business in Newport, I. of W.
ex-C.S.M. Hall, J. .	One time Band Sgt. 2nd Battn. Now employed at Room 127, War Office.
ex-R.S.M. Hancock, J. G.	1st and 2nd Battns. R.S.M. of 6th Battn. Chesterfield. Discharged to pension after 21 years. Now living in Chesterfield.
ex-C/Sgt. Houseley, W. .	Well known in Regiment and on Permanent Staff of 3rd and 4th Battns. Now P.P.R. in Nottingham under Major McGuire.
ex-Sgt. Keary, D. .	A well-known Sgt. Mr. Tailor of the 4th Battn. Now living in Derby and temporarily employed with County Recruiting Officer, Derby.
ex-L/Corpl. Marriott, .	2nd Battn. Sherwood Foresters. Now employed as messenger at War Office.
ex-R.S.M. Mountenay, W. (D.C.M.)	Late R.S.M. 8th Battn. Now to pension and employed and living in Nottingham. Delights to spend his holidays in camp with the 8th Battn.

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ex-Captain Parker, F. C.	Now Mine Host of the Swan Hotel, Allenton, Derby.
ex-C.S.M. Pritchard, T.	Well known in 1st Battn. Now to pension and living at Swadlincote.
ex-Sgt. Stuart, E.	1st and 2nd Battns. Now employed with the United Engineers, Singapore.
ex-C.S.M. Thorpe, H.	2nd Battn. Was prisoner of war, afterwards to Permanent Staff 6th Battn. Now to pension and living in Chesterfield,
ex-Sgt. Williamson, G. H.	Served with 9th Battn., also 1st and 2nd Battns. during the War. M.E.F. and B.E.F. Now employed as Postman, G.P.O., Derby.
ex-R.S.M. Walker	Late Army Gym. Staff. Now Mine Host of the Glasgow Hotel, Bridge Street, Southampton.
ex-C.Q.M.S. Widnall, G.	Permanent Staff, H.R. Rifles. Now to pension and employed and living in Nottingham.
ex-Pte. Welsh	1st Battn. Now employed on the Prison Staff Department, Singapore.
ex-Sgt. Warsop, G.	1st and 2nd Battns. Now employed on Prison Staff, Muai Johore, Malay States.
ex-R.S.M. Ward, C. (D.C.M.)	Well known in Regiment as a hockey player. Served 1st Battn. and 9th Battn. Temporarily attached to R. Scots. Fusrs. in E.E.F. and gained D.C.M. with that Regiment. Invalided to pension and now poultry farming in Nottingham under Government Scheme.
ex-Pte. Whitworth, G. H.	Well known as an Officer's servant in 2nd Battn. Served in S.A. and Great War. Discharged to pension after 24 years. Now farming at Sinfin Lane, Derby.
ex-R.S.M. Tomlinson, G. H.	1st and 2nd Battns., afterwards Indian unattached List. Now to pension and living and working in Derby. Believed to be the only Forester in possession of the Indian General Service Medal, 1908, with Bar, " Afghanistan N.W. Frontier.'

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ex-R.S.M. Cooper, W. . .	1st and 2nd Battns., afterwards Indian unattached List. Now to pension and living at Farnham and engaged in farming.
No. 12104 Pte. Stafford, J. W.	Went out to France with 2nd Battn. and served all through the War, in 1916, 1917 and 1918 with Battn. Transport; lost his leg at St. Quentin in September, 1918. Now employed at the Royal United Service Institution, Whitehall, London. Lives at 48 Hayles Street, Southwark.

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XVII

THE OLD COMRADES' ASSOCIATION

Annual General Meeting, 1921

THE Tenth Annual General Meeting was held in the Assembly Rooms, Market Hall, Chesterfield, on the afternoon of the 8th October, 1921, prior to the Dinner.

Brig.-Gen. J. W. G. Roy (Vice-President of the Association) was in the chair, and was supported by Col. T. H. M. Green, D.S.O.; Col. H. E. D. Disbrowe-Wise, C.B.E.; Col. A. W. Brewill; Col. N. G. Pearson; Col. E. Hall, D.S.O., T.D.; Major C. D. Harvey, D.S.O. (President of the Executive Committee), and others. There was an attendance of about one hundred members, and the proceedings were followed with very keen interest.

The minutes of the last General Meeting were confirmed as they appeared in the Annual Report of 1920.

The Secretary and Treasurer submitted the following report on the year's work :—

" My special note in submitting the report of the general work done by the Association during the period from the 1st January to date is ' membership.' All of you who were present at our last gathering could not help noticing that the predominant theme then was ' increased membership,' and I am glad to be able to report that, at least to a very fair extent, this matter has not been neglected. Our membership at the end of the year was 650, and it now stands at 920, an increase of 270, which I suggest is very creditable considering the abnormal times through which we are passing. Credit in a very large measure is due to the District Representatives for this increase ; nearly the whole of our representatives have at various times submitted names of new members. Some have

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done better perhaps than others. In one case the representative has been responsible for enrolling between 40 and 50 members during the year. In addition to our representatives some of our other members have added their quota to our roll, and I would strongly like to commend their action to all, hoping that our membership will continue to increase year by year until we approach the numbers more nearly approximate to those of our Regiment who are eligible to join our Association.

" I would like to add that our Executive is pleased to record their appreciation of the good work done this year by the District Representatives, and trust that it may continue until all District Representatives are co-operated on our Executive, this being necessary for the proper control of a strong, well-organised Association, such as we wish to see, and which is well worth working for.

" Financially, we are having a fairly good year. Subscriptions and donations are coming in quite up to what might be expected, but I should like to add that, in my opinion, it is not the spirit of our Association that any of our members should feel that they are not in good standing because, by adverse circumstances over which they have no control, they are not able to send along, as usual, their annual subscriptions. I am made acquainted, very often by letters received, that times are going very hardly with a good number of our members, and I should like to take this opportunity of voicing what I believe to be the sentiments of our Executive—that they would be very sorry to know that anyone has ceased to interest himself in our Association. Under such circumstances as these, and to such we would say ' hang on ' until brighter days come again, maintaining touch with the old Regiment by continuing in membership with our Association.

" The Association has again been very fortunate in receiving two substantial grants from the late Officer Commanding the 52nd Battalion (Lt.-Col. R. S. Hart, D.S.O.) amounting to the sum of £146 3s. 6d., part of which has been invested for the Association by the United Services Trustee, under the direction of the President of our Executive, and is on the agenda for confirmation by this meeting.

" Col. Bernal, late Officer Commanding the 4th Battalion,

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has again made a donation of £50 to our Benevolent Fund, which is gratefully acknowledged.

" I regret to report that the Association has lost a generous supporter by the death of Major F. Weldon, D.S.O., who associated himself with our work from the formation of the Association. We have also lost, by death, two other members who were keenly interested in the work of the Association, and our members will be glad to hear that in these cases the Benevolent Committee were on hand to render valuable assistance when it was needed.

" Particulars of all casualties will be given in the Annual Report, published at the end of the year."

The Report was passed, Mr. R. Holmes, of Chesterfield, taking the opportunity, on behalf of the Chesterfield members, of saying how pleased they were that the Association had given Chesterfield a trial as a venue for the annual gathering, and expressed the hope that it would be a success in every sense of the word.

The action of the Executive in authorising the investment of £74 4s. 3d. through the United Services Trustee was confirmed.

The Officers of the Association for the ensuing year were duly elected, all being re-elected with the exception that Mr. R. Holmes replaced Mr. J. Spencer as member of the Executive and District Representative for Chesterfield; also that Mr. J. Beecroft takes the place of Mr. Offard as the Association Representative at Retford.

The Secretary's salary was fixed at £50 per annum.

The following members' proposals were then dealt with :—

" *Proposed that the Association take an active part in assisting a Committee to work on the scheme for a Regimental Memorial by giving their support, in some way to be agreed upon by the meeting.*"—Proposed by Major C. D. Harvey, D.S.O., seconded by Mr. Milner.

Major Harvey introduced the subject, and gave some details of the numbers it was intended to commemorate, and also of the preliminary steps which had been taken. The meeting was then thrown open for discussion.

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Col. Wise, Col. Brewill and Col. Hall, in supporting the proposal, took the opportunity of saying how much they appreciated the privilege of being allowed to meet with the Association, and of being members of the same. Among others, the following suggestions were discussed :—

(1) *That the Memorial should be placed at the Depot.*

(2) *That a Flag Day, throughout the two counties, might with advantage be organised in order to raise funds.*

(3) *That the District Representatives might form small local committees among the members of the Association for the furtherance of the scheme.*

(4) *That the Mayors of the various towns be asked to co-operate in the work of raising money.*

(5) *That the numbers of each Battalion's casualties might be shown on the Memorial.*

The following representative committee was then suggested :—

O.C. all Battalions and Service Battalions wherever possible, O.C. Depot, the Executive Committee of the O.C.A., Col. Stepney, Col. Pearson, Col. Goodman and Major Baines, with power to add to their numbers.

" Proposed that the Officers Commanding the 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th Battalion be asked to become Vice-Presidents of the Association."—Proposed by Major E. N. T. Collin, seconded by Major Hume.—Carried.

" Proposed that on account of the greatly increased expenditure the annual subscription be increased to 2s."—Not carried.

" Proposed that a member who has a five years' membership should, on reaching the age of fifty, become a life member of the Association on payment of 10s. 6*d."*—Proposed by Mr. Simpson. After some discussion this proposal was not carried.

It was proposed that the next Annual Meeting take place at Derby on or about the third Saturday in October next, and that if possible special railway facilities should be obtained to enable members to travel at reduced fares.

The Meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

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REPORT OF THE BENEVOLENT COMMITTEE

In submitting the report of the work done by the Benevolent Committee for the period from the 1st January to the end of the year, I am pleased to say that there has been good work done. The Committee have been working quietly, but with good effect, and have been dealing with cases during the whole of the period under review. All cases brought to notice have been effectually dealt with. In all, forty cases have been assisted financially, seven cases assisted in other ways than by grants and five cases turned down as being unsuitable for assistance.

Of the cases financially assisted :—

Seven cases relate to widows of Old Foresters, who have been assisted on account of age and infirmity.

Two cases have been the result of sickness, and two in consequence of sickness and death in the family.

In one case a loan has been made to assist in defraying funeral expenses.

Ten cases were those of defraying funeral expenses ; one was a most sad case, both the father and mother dying within a short period of each other, leaving three children. Another of these cases was in respect of one of our Old Comrades, who, after having suffered for years in consequence of a wound in the head received in the South African War, made away with himself, leaving an invalid widow quite unprovided for. In this case the Committee took up the case with the Royal Patriotic Fund Corporation, and obtained further assistance for the widow, in addition to which her name was added to the list of the Transvaal War Extension Fund for favourable consideration whenever fresh cases are taken on that fund.

Note.—Since submitting this report the Benevolent Committee have been notified that this widow has been granted a pension of 10s. per week until seventy years of age.

Thirteen cases were on account of unemployment and sickness, and I would like to point out here that the Committee have reluctantly been compelled to add " sickness " to unemployment as a qualification for assistance, for although the Committee would have wished to have been in a position to

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have alleviated *all* cases of unemployment brought to notice, it has been found impossible, owing to the extraordinary amount of unemployment prevalent at this time, to attempt to assist these cases, although when it has been found that arrears, say of insurance, have accumulated owing to unemployment, and that there is danger of any policy lapsing, assistance has been afforded to avoid this taking place.

Five cases were of men who were making their way from one town to another in search of work, and were given small amounts to enable them to obtain a meal and a night's lodging.

An unusual case was in respect of the help given by the Committee to a serving soldier to meet the expenses incurred in keeping his child in a sanatorium. This case was strongly recommended by the man's Commanding Officer.

One man was given a grant to assist him in his business. Another received a couple of parcels of comforts, whilst a patient in hospital; and to another a grant was made to assist him in the purchase of stock on his smallholding.

Of the cases otherwise assisted, the Committee consider the case of ex-Sergt. B. the most interesting case of the year; it has been in hand since last December and is still unfinished; it undoubtedly furnishes a good example of the Committee's tenacity of purpose when undertaking to deal with a case. The case was brought to the notice of the Committee by the National Benevolent Society for the Deaf, and was found to be a genuinely deserving case. The man had been discharged "no longer physically fit for war service," suffering from shell shock; a disability pension had been granted to him for a period after his discharge, but discontinued. As time went on, however, he became very deaf and unable to follow his employment, and it was then that the case was brought to the notice of our Committee for assistance, some two and a half years after the man's discharge. To get the full facts of the case one of the Committee made a special visit to the man, and obtained a full report, when it was found that what was specially required was a grant for the purpose of purchasing a horse and cart to enable the man to obtain a livelihood by carting. The matter was referred to the Civil Liabilities Department, with a request for the horse and cart to be supplied at the public expense, but the application was

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returned, stating that the matter could not be attended to unless the man was in receipt of a disability pension, and at that time such was not the case. The Committee thereupon set about getting the pension renewed, and after considerable delay succeeded in getting a 20 per cent disability pension (which means 16s. 5d. per week), and then resubmitted the application for the horse and cart. They were then informed that the application could not be entertained unless it could be stated that the man had received medical treatment during the twelve months succeeding his discharge, i.e. two years before the case was brought to our notice. Not wishing to be baffled, however, the President of our Committee made a special visit to the County Pension Committee, and the Secretary was dispatched to the man himself, and to the local Pension Committee at the place where the man resides, to find out if there was any evidence in existence to the effect that the man had been medically treated during the period asked for. Unfortunately there was no such evidence in existence. The man had undoubtedly been ill during that time, but had had no treatment, and of course is now penalised for " sticking it." A special appeal was then made on the man's behalf to the National Benevolent Society for the Deaf, asking for a loan or a grant to enable the man to stock his holding on which he now lives, and the Committee is still waiting their reply ; whatever help is forthcoming, the Committee will in all probability add to it, with a view of putting this man and his family on their feet again, and making them independent of further help.

Note.—This case has now been concluded, the following assistance having been obtained :—

(*i.*) A loan of £15 from the National Society for the Deaf.
(*ii.*) A grant of £10 from the Derbyshire Relief Fund.
(*iii.*) A grant of £5 from the funds of our own Association.

The Committee have also taken up four cases in respect of claims for pensions, and have been successful in obtaining two widows' pensions and two life pensions.

One case is particularly noteworthy, for in addition to obtaining a pension for a widow, our Committee prevailed upon the local War Pensions Committee to assist with the

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funeral expenses; but for our efforts it is safe to say that nothing would have been done in the matter.

Another case. It was brought to our notice that one of our members had been ill; one of the Committee paid him a visit, and found he was just leaving for a convalescent home for treatment, and to be trained in poultry farming. The Committee have kept in touch with the family, and will do so until the man returns. He has sent along a letter saying that he is steadily improving, and seems very much to appreciate our slight efforts made on his behalf.

During the year we received an application for a grant from the Village Centre Council in respect of a man who had served in the Territorial Force. The matter was taken up with the Battalion concerned, and a grant of £10 was obtained on behalf of this man.

An application from the wife of an ex-Forester, at present in a mental hospital, was received, asking the Committee to assist her in obtaining the sum of £25 from the balance standing to the credit of her husband's account. The matter was satisfactorily arranged and the money obtained.

Cases considered unsuitable for assistance:—

Of these, two were cases which the Committee had previously assisted, and as the circumstances of the families had not materially changed, did not feel justified in incurring further expenditure at that time.

One case was refused in consequence of an adverse report given to the Committee by those on the spot.

One case the Committee did not feel justified in helping, as the man had thrown himself out of work, and thereby lost his out-of-work pay. In this case, however, we agreed to reconsider the matter again whenever the man obtains employment, so as to help him to make a fresh start by clearing off some of his debts.

The remaining case was in respect of an application for the loan of £100, but the Committee could not see their way clear to recommend this to the Executive Committee, as it was considered to be of a very speculative character.

I eed hardly add that to refuse help is very often the har est part of the work; no one likes to do that, and to avoid refusing help the Committee spare themselves no trouble in

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their endeavours to get to the bottom of each case, and to give assistance whenever possible.

The Committee have met quarterly during the year, and have in the intervals disposed of cases through the post.

A complete report of all cases dealt with appears in this Report.

J. H. GLOVER,
Secretary.

LIST OF CASES ASSISTED

	£	s.	d.
T.B.—Granted loan to defray expenses of wife's funeral	5	0	0
A.C.—Daughter of an old Forester assisted owing to old age and infirmity	3	0	0
H.L.—Assisted on his way to another town to obtain employment	0	10	0
G.S.—Sickness and death in family. (Grant)	3	0	0
T.B.—Funeral Expenses: Member of the O.C.A.	3	13	0
J.M.—Sickness and Unemployment. (Grant)	3	0	0
J.W.—Funeral expenses	1	10	0
O.N.—Widow of O.N. Old age and infirmity. (Grant)	3	0	0
J.G.—Funeral expenses. A member of the Association	6	0	0
T.H.—Sickness and unemployment. (Grant)	2	0	0
E.P.—Assisted on his way through the town, seeking employment	0	10	0
W.C.—Funeral expenses	4	5	0
H.S.—Railway fare to Plymouth, to take up employment	2	10	0
M.G.—Widow of ex-Corporal M.G. Funeral expenses. Also obtained on her behalf £3, and a pension of 10s. per week from the Transvaal War Fund	3	0	0
C.T.—Sickness. (Grant)	4	0	0
P.H.—Widow. Old age and infirmity	3	0	0
M.McL.—Sickness. Grant for purchase of clothing on leaving hospital	3	0	0
R.G.—Sickness of man and wife	3	0	0

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	£	s.	d.
G.E.—Widow of an old member of the Association	2	0	0
G.B.—Sickness and unemployment. (Grant)	3	0	0
J.H.—Widow of ex-Sergt. J.H. (Grant to meet funeral expenses)	6	0	0
F.C.—Funeral expenses of man and wife	5	0	0
H.W.—Sickness in family	3	0	0
W.R.—Unemployment. (Insurance policy paid)	1	2	0
J.D.—Sickness and unemployment	4	0	0
J.P.—Widow of ex-Sergt. J.P. Old age. (Grant)	2	0	0
T.D.—Sickness and unemployment. (Grant)	2	0	0
J.D.—(Serving).—Assisted to help to defray expenses of child in Sanatorium	6	0	0
T.M.—Sickness and unemployment. (Grant and Insurance policy paid)	3	0	0
H.W.—Unemployment and sickness. (Grant)	3	0	0
C.H.—Widow, assisted on account of age. (Grant)	2	0	0
J.W.—Funeral expenses	6	14	6
E.D.—Grant to help in business	2	0	0
F.A.—Funeral expenses of child. Assisted owing to long unemployment. (Further assistance obtained for this case from the Leicestershire O.C.A.)	4	16	0
H.B.—Funeral expenses	6	0	0
D.K.—Parcels whilst a patient in hospital	0	10	6
A.B.—Grant to purchase stock on smallholding. (Also obtained for this man a grant of £10 from the Derbyshire Relief Fund and a loan of £15 from the National Society for the Deaf)	5	0	0
A.G.—Assisted on his way through the town in search of work	0	6	0
J.McL.—Sickness and unemployment	5	0	0
R.C.B. (3)—Assisted, passing through town in search of work	0	15	0
	£127	2	0

Distribution by counties.—Notts 10, Derbyshire 11, Leicestershire 3, London 5, Ireland 3, Other Counties 10. Assistance given to 6 members and 36 non-members of the Association.

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TENTH ANNUAL DINNER

THE annual gathering was held in the Assembly Room of the Market Hall, Chesterfield, on Saturday, the 8th October, 1921.

Lt.-Gen. The Rt. Hon. Sir Frederick Shaw, K.C.B., occupied the chair, and was supported by an exceptionally large number of officers and members of the Association.

Nearly two hundred guests sat down to a good repast, including a representative party from the 1st Battalion, stationed in Ireland. The catering on this occasion was entrusted to the local firm of Everest & Son, and the members were well provided for. An excellent spirit of comradeship prevailed among all ranks. One unfortunate feature, however, was that owing to the inconvenient train service a good number were compelled to leave early in the evening, which was much to be regretted.

The musical programme was furnished by the band of the 6th Battalion Sherwood Foresters, by the kind permission of Col. E. Hall, D.S.O., and officers of the Battalion, and during the evening rendered a very interesting programme, which was much appreciated.

After the toast of "The King" had been given, the Chairman rose to propose the "Old Comrades' Association," and said that they all regretted the absence of their President and Hon. Colonel (Gen. Sir Horace Smith-Dorrien), who was still a soldier and prevented by duty from being there. They had the greatest admiration for him, both as a soldier and a man. The last two years had seen a great change in their Association. Formerly it was confined to the two Line Battalions, but now all who had served in the Regiment were eligible for membership. He was perhaps a little late in the day, but he would like to say how much they welcomed those members who had come in on account of their services during the War. Prior to the War 1800 officers and men comprised the two Line Battalions. During the War the Sherwood Foresters raised 32 Battalions, representing 150,000 men—almost the strength of the British Army on a peace footing. Out of the 150,000 men from their own district, no fewer than 10,000 were killed or died of wounds. That was a great record; it showed that

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the men in their regimental district recognised their duty to their country. He had hoped the increase of membership would have been greater. The funds of the Association were in an exceedingly good position, and in addition to the balance of the General and Benevolent Funds, they had vested funds of nearly £4,000. He had been informed that they had during the afternoon been discussing the proposals respecting the Regimental Memorial; he was in sympathy with the idea, and was pleased to hear that the Committee had been appointed to deal with this matter. It was up to them to honour those who had honoured them by their sacrifice, and they must do something that was worthy of them, and worthy of themselves. He had not crystallised his views upon what form the memorial should take. He thought the general idea was that there should be some memorial which could be seen by the general public, the relatives who had suffered bereavement, and the young soldiers who were coming into the Regiment to uphold its future honour, and the honour of the country.

The toast was then enthusiastically given.

The following telegrams were received during the evening :—

From the 1st Battalion, Ireland—

" All ranks send hearty greetings and best wishes."

—Colonel Way.

" Best wishes and good luck to you all."

—Members of the Sergeants' Mess.

" Greetings to all Old Comrades."

—Members of the Corporals' Mess.

" Good luck to you all, much regret unable to be present, but could not get leave."—Colonel Way.

From the 2nd Battalion, Egypt—

" Congratulations from all ranks."—Colonel Taylor.

From the Dett. 1st Battalion, Blackdown—

" Heartiest greetings and feeling and good-will to old comrades from all ranks."—Commanding Details.

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XVIII

Obituary

COLONEL NORTON KNATCHBULL was up to the year 1919 so regular an attendant at the Regimental Dinner that he was probably better known to the younger generation of officers than are others who have severed their active connection with the Regiment so long ago as he had; and all, old and young, will have read with very real grief, and deepest sympathy for those he left behind him, of his death on 14th December, 1921, at Bournemouth, in the eighty-eighth year of his age. But it is to those who served with him in the 95th, the 2nd Battalion, wherein all his soldiering days were passed—who are perhaps best able to realise all that his death means to his comrades. He was one of the gentlest and kindest of men, possessing the heart of a lion coupled with the simplicity of a child; he saw good in all men. Nobody who served with him ever heard him say an unkind word of any man; he was a splendid sportsman and soldier, and as modest as he was brave, and was probably unaware to the last of the affection which his brother officers had for him. He was a man of fine physique, a horseman in the best sense of the word, a splendid "drill" with an altogether wonderful word of command. The writer of these lines remembers once, at an inspection in the late seventies, Major Knatchbull was called out to drill the Battalion; he galloped out on old "Fuzbos," saluted the inspecting officer and then rode away beyond him, till the general began to look anxiously round, wondering whether the "Major" was leaving the parade ground. But he turned his charger round when some 300 yards away from the line, and he drilled us as we drilled for nobody else!

Gen. Sir O'Moore Creagh, who in his young days was one

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of Col. Knatchbull's subalterns, contributed a very striking appreciation of his old "Skipper" to the *Morning Post.* There is not one of us who will not cordially agree with every word he said, and account ourselves fortunate indeed that we had the great privilege of counting Norton Knatchbull among our comrades and friends; of him we may say as was said of Sir Walter Raleigh, "He was a gentleman, of great assuredness and a great heart."

"In your issue of to-day (Friday) I see, with the deepest regret, the notification of the death of my old friend Colonel Norton Knatchbull. May I say a few words in appreciation of him in addition to your obituary notice? He was captain of my company when I joined the 95th (Notts and Derbyshire Regiment) fifty-five years ago. He trained me and taught me the way I should go, and has since been my kind and respected friend. He possessed all the qualities of a good soldier and perfect Christian gentleman. A man of noble character, modest, kind, and unassuming, he sought only to do his duty. He acquired great influence among all with whom he came in contact by his uprightness and unblemished character, 'Sans peur et sans reproche.' He was conspicuously popular in his regiment and with the natives of India.

"Colonel Knatchbull's physique was splendid; he was a fine sportsman, good with both gun and rifle, rode straight to hounds, was a well-known athlete, and a good fisherman—the latter sport he enjoyed to within a short time of his death. Had he remained in the Army he would undoubtedly have attained high rank."

Colonel Norton Knatchbull was born on January 16th, 1834, and was appointed Ensign in the 95th Regiment on the 29th December, 1854, joining the Regiment then before Sebastopol in June of the following year, obtaining the medal with clasp for Sebastopol and the Turkish medal. He accompanied the headquarter wing to India in June, 1857, served all through the Central India campaign, and was mentioned in Sir Hugh Rose's despatches for assisting to capture a howitzer and turn it on the enemy at the battle before Gwalior. Of him at this period Colonel Crealock afterwards wrote: "He was 6 ft. 2 in., as strong as Wiltshire Downs could make him, with a voice like a gong; added to this he

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was at that time probably the fastest runner in the British army." And of the final capture of the gun he said: "Norton Knatchbull was lying across its breach, panting and white with dust. . . . He was the first of ours in, and he it was who, if I remember rightly, scratched '95' on one of the guns with his sword."

Captain in November, 1860, he obtained his majority in June, 1875, and retired with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel in 1881 to the great grief of his brother officers, who had hoped that he would have accompanied the Battalion to India and entered us to all the forms of Indian sport he knew so well and at which he had few equals.

"Ave atque Vale."

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XIX

ODE TO A LADY

Who wrote to the office poet begging him, in the interests of his figure, to take plenty of walking exercise.

I

Dear Mrs. ——
You're very good to write so kind a letter,
To say how earnestly you hope my waist is getting better,
And that by dint of exercise it may become once more,
The airy, dainty, wasp-like thing it was in days of yore.

II

Your words of kindly interest encourage me to write,
And tell you here—in confidence—how manfully I fight
The ills of Adiposity to face and overcome—
So I now sit down and send you my day's curriculum.

III

I leave my couch each morning while yet the day is dark,
And thread the glades and tread the walks of leafy Regent's Park,
There pantingly—and *bantingly*—I urge my footsteps fleet,
Till faint and warm I seek the Tube at distant Baker Street.

* * * * * *

IV

So far there's no improvement very startling, I confess,
And my waist-line still appears to be—well—rather more than less;
But if this drastic treatment I still pursue with vigour,
I hope some day to hear you say—"Oh! *what* a pretty figure!"

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